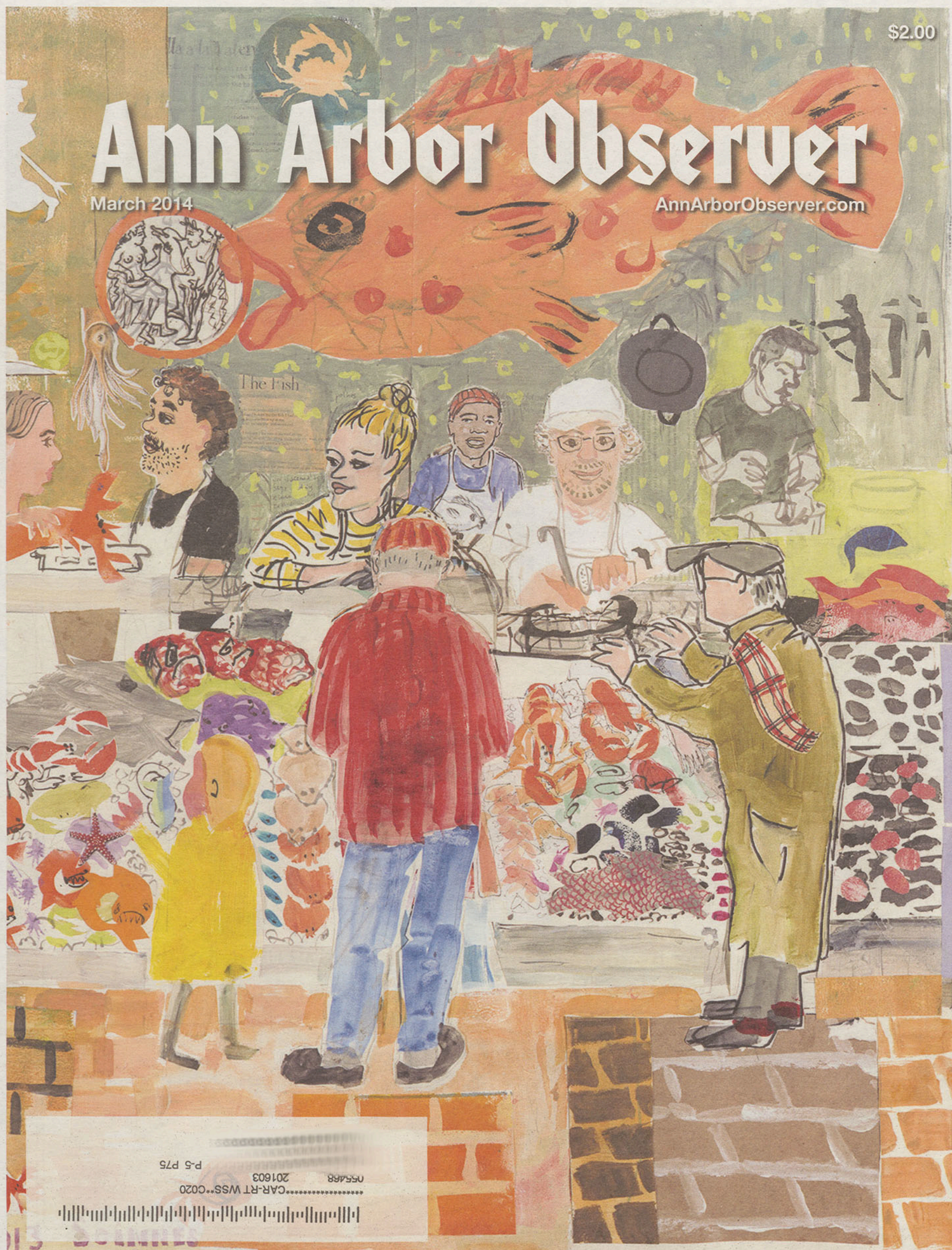


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March 2014

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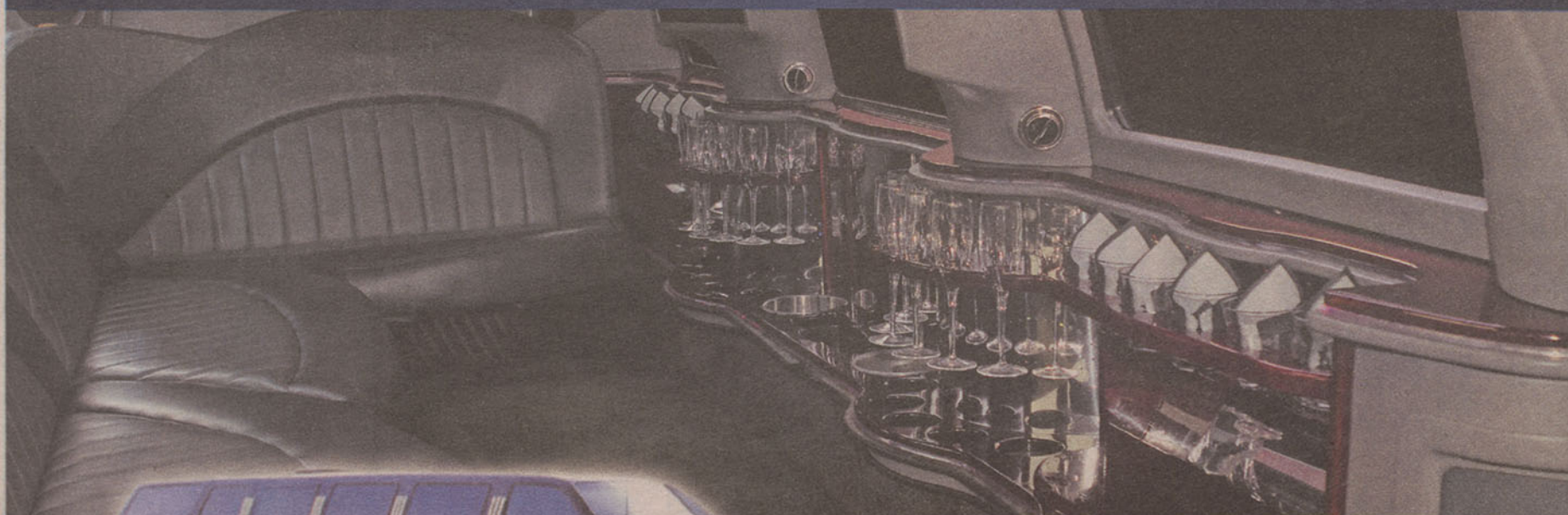
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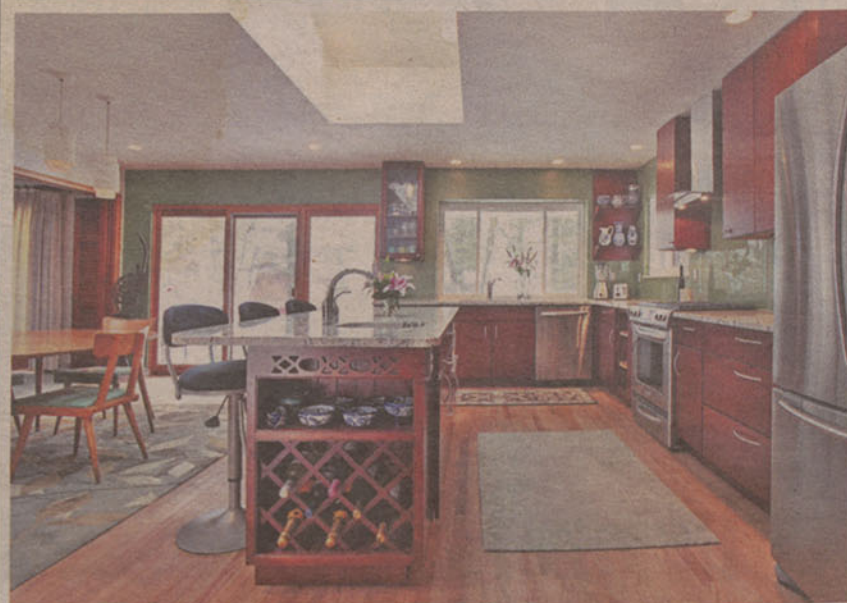
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FROM RICK



The statistics speak for themselves: property values in Washtenaw county have grown an incredible 18%

during 2013, and Ann Arbor property values grew 14%. The average sale price for a home in Ann Arbor has grown from \$295,128 to \$336,378.

Furthermore, the Average Days on Market has been reduced by 32% with 47 days being the average time it takes to sell a home.

These numbers are staggering as well as accurate and you have a right to know this. So the next time you're discussing real estate at a party, feel free to use these numbers and let your friends know that Rick Taylor really has a pulse on the Ann Arbor and Washtenaw County markets.

Data from Ann Arbor Area Board of Realtors database

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Story
#42

Morse B. Barker Memorial Scholarship Fund

Helping Hundreds of Local Students



Those who knew him remember Morse "Bunny" Barker as a generous man who believed in helping young people. When Morse died in 1982, his sister, Virginia Brousalis, honored his memory by establishing the very first scholarship fund at the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation. Today, AAACF manages 43 scholarship funds that annually award nearly \$150,000 in scholarships to support local students' continuing education.

Virginia's approach to creating an enduring legacy for her brother was simple but powerful: do good, help others, and keep it going. She asked that Barker Scholarships be awarded to students who are residents

of Washtenaw County and attend Cleary University or Washtenaw Community College, or to graduating seniors from an Ann Arbor public high school who plan to attend either school. Determined to help as many students as possible, Virginia made additional contributions to help grow the Fund and left a generous bequest through her estate plan.

The first Barker Scholarship was awarded in 1984. Since then, the Fund has provided nearly \$1 million in scholarship aid, helping more than 1,500 local students receive a college education. Jamal Dallal, a 1999 graduate of Huron High School, was one of those students. "Without that help," he says, "I probably wouldn't have been able to continue my education and ultimately earn a graduate degree. The Barker Scholarship made a big difference in my life."

One of the many ways the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation supports all that is good in our community.

Read more "good" stories at: aaacf.org

To learn more about AAACF's scholarships, please visit: aaacf.org/scholarships



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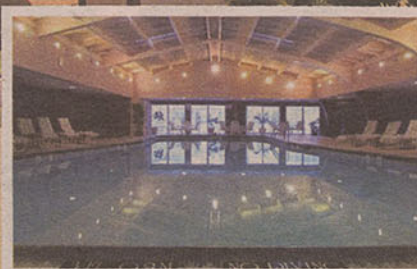


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Crime is down—again: The number of burglaries on the Observer's Crime Map for December was so low it looked like a misprint: just eleven in the entire month, compared to seventy-nine in December 2012. It's vivid proof of the old adage that crooks stay home in bad weather—January's total (see p. 21) is also down. But there's more at work than a hard winter. "We look at what are called Part One crimes," says police chief John Seto—including murder, assault, robbery, and burglary—"and 2013's were down near 2011's, which were the lowest ever."

In a small city like Ann Arbor, month-to-month figures can fluctuate wildly—but five-year comparisons confirm the downward trend. From 2003 to 2008, the city averaged 3,429 Part One crimes per year. From 2009 to 2013, it averaged 3,028.

"B&Es are the lowest they've ever been," reports mayor John Hieftje. "They're down because the police arrested the perpetrators and put them in jail."

"Arresting people has a significant impact when one person commits multiple crimes," Seto explains. In ten arrests last year, the department picked up eighteen suspects linked to at least forty in-town B&Es.

Seto says they did it with "good old-fashioned police work, officers digging in and making connections." That, and *CSI Ann Arbor*: "Our officers are gathering more evidence which is leading to more arrests—more fingerprints, footprints, DNA, things like that," Seto says. "Because better tech is available, and we're getting better at using it."

Don't flush 'em!: Robert Kellar, new PR guy for the Ann Arbor public services department, recently issued a list of "Commonly Flushed Items That Should Not Be." Topping the list is "Flushable Wipes."

Municipal sewer departments "have been complaining for years" about that label, he says. "They're marketed as such because there's no law that says they can't," he says, but they don't dissolve, and they can plug up both sewers and the treatment plant. Other problematic items include hair, condoms, diapers, dental floss, and cigarette butts (though they see fewer of those than in the past). Asked for the "weirdest items" that have clogged the city's pipes, Kellar mentions clothing, cutlery, roofing nails, and trash bags. But he is pleased that fewer people are flushing pills, presumably because of pharmacies' take-back programs. (Sewage treatment plants aren't designed to remove drugs, so the chemicals can end up in the Huron River.)

Because the department "doesn't separate costs out by issue," Kellar can't provide either the dollars spent or workers' hours used to rectify such problems, for instance, by opening manholes to remove the obstructions. He notes, though, that the city's utility workers do "multiple jobs," and that time spent unclogging the city's pipes would free them to concentrate on other things. "Like snow removal."

Thurston Beatlemania: The Thurston Community Players (TCP) celebrate their fortieth anniversary this year with a musical called "Thru the Fairy Door!" (see Events, March 27). Most of the 100-plus actors are elementary school students, but quite a few are Thurston parents and/or grandparents. "Everyone who auditions gets a part," explained Praveena Ramaswami, TCP board president. "Everybody's a winner."

The group started in 1975 as a way to raise money for the north-side school, and parents did everything from writing scripts

and music to acting and set building. Then Thurston students and teachers joined in, and now productions are open to all neighborhood residents.

A lot of Thurston alumni participate, says Ramaswami, as do grandparents who appear onstage with their children and grandchildren. "I got involved because this is one of the few activities I can share with my kids," she says. "We learn our lines and sew costumes together, and we have a scrapbook of all the productions we've been in."

All of the shows are musical comedies, and all poke fun at local institutions and personalities. This year's musical takes place at the Art Fair, when some teenagers lose an "important ring" through a fairy door—one of the couple dozen miniature, elaborately decorated doors that have mysteriously appeared at cafés and shops in Ann Arbor. A good fairy helps the teens shrink so they can fit through the door—but then they encounter an evil fairy named Spiderella.

All hope might be lost, but in a nod to another performance group that is also celebrating an important anniversary this year, the Beatles come to the rescue. "You'll be hearing a lot of adaptations of their songs if you come," Ramaswami promises. Befitting their smaller stature, though, Thurston's stars are "Beatles."

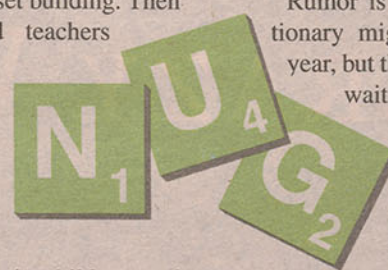
Go ahead, play "nug": When Susan Chastain started a weekly Scrabble game at her Firefly Club on Ashley in 2005, Merriam-Webster was just bringing out its new Fourth Edition of the *Official Scrabble Players Dictionary* (famous for its game-changing blockbusters *qi* and *za*). Nine years later, the Firefly is long gone, and Chastain lives in Florida (though she occasionally comes back to sing jazz). But the Wednesday evening drop-in game is still going strong at Arbor Brewing Company (see Events), with dog-eared Fourth Editions on the tables.

Rumor is that a new official dictionary might come out later this year, but the local Scrabblers aren't waiting. To bring their game up to date, they've unilaterally sanctioned more than 100 new words. Anyone is welcome to show up and throw down such recent coinages as *emo*, *doh*, *sext*, *vape*, *phish*, *twerk*, *selfie*, *spork*, *googled*, *fanboy*, and *locavore*. For anyone who wants to bone up beforehand, the complete list is posted on the Ann Arbor Scrabble Club's Facebook page.

Colon cleanse: A recent Groupon Deal of the Day offered a \$35 colon hydrotherapy session at Ann Arbor's Creative Lifeflow—half the regular price to "polish the pipes." Center owner Nancy Gurney says it's the third year she's used the Chicago-based online coupon company to advertise the treatment, which uses a filtered water system to evacuate waste from the body.

Colon cleansing "changed my life," says Gurney, forty-four. She describes a feeling of "clarity" so intense that after one session, "I felt like I could see behind me." Gurney says she gets "lots of women in their forties and fifties" as clients and "for some reason I see a lot of U-M researchers and people in dentistry." She thinks researchers may just be more open to new ideas. As for dentistry, she's not sure. "Well, digestion does begin in the mouth," she says.

Each of Gurney's first Groupon offers brought in more than 250 people, but this time around it's upwards of fifty, Gurney says, which makes her think she may have saturated the market. She says about 50 percent of the Groupon customers purchase a package from her for future sessions. Gurney says she's used to all the poop jokes and laughs along with them. But she always lets her clients "take the lead," because some people are "more serious than others."



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Inside Ann Arbor

Proactive Policing

Stepped-up traffic enforcement is just one of the AAPD's priorities this year.

With serious crime near an all-time low (see Up Front, p. 9), city council voted to add \$125,000 to the police department's budget in December. The money is buying about 70 hours a week of police overtime for traffic enforcement.

Chief John Seto says they're out to curb dangerous driving. "We get all kinds of complaints from citizens and from re-searching crash data," he says. "They vary from speeding to running stop signs to cut-throughs in neighborhoods to trucks not obeying 'no trucks' signs to distracted driving and aggressive driving." The police stepped up patrols starting in January, and "we'll do something every week for the rest of the [fiscal] year" in June. "The manner of deployment depends on the time of day—for example before or after school, or at rush hour."

All councilmembers voted for the overtime except mayor John Hieftje—"It was a good idea, but I thought we could've waited until we had a solid plan," he says. Ward Two's Sally Hart Petersen, however, believes the time was right for more traffic enforcement.

"We have aggressive driving, and people are not getting called out on it," says the candidate for mayor. "The pedestrian safety ordinance had a feel-good component to it, but it didn't work. Data showed pedestrian crashes skyrocketed. It's distracted driving, it's social media, that's doing it."

Seto says education is crucial to making the ordinance work. "The officers have the discretion to take in the totality of the situation and take appropriate action. Sometimes that's a ticket; sometimes that's a warning. It's an education so [drivers] know what they're doing wrong."

"There was an increase in pedestrian crossing violations last year, so there's more focus on it this year with more visibility and more contact with drivers and more warning and more citations. It's a difficult problem, so we'll probably make it our focus again next year."

Even before council approved the overtime, Seto assigned another officer to focus on traffic enforcement. As part of a new "emphasis on proactive policing and community engagement," he also added a position to "the crime strategy unit so it's now staffed by a detective sergeant and three detectives." And he appointed sergeant Tom Hickey the department's "community engagement officer."

"My main job is reaching out to people," Hickey says. "For example, I was at Concordia [University] yesterday, training the staff on what to do in the event of a shooter in the building." He's been on the job since last May, and his highest-profile



Officer Steven Dye on traffic patrol on North Main Street. Chief John Seto also added an officer to the crime strategy unit and restored a position in community relations.

project so far is the Juvenile Graffiti Removal Initiative, a twelve-week program where juvenile offenders completed 218 hours of community service removing graffiti.

"We had quite a bit of graffiti in town and I was looking for a way to combat it," Hickey explains. "I had to get the courts and the probation officers involved, and we identified four young folks who were arrested for graffiti. The DDA gave me \$1,000 for paint and supplies, and the city let me use an old canoe delivery van, and every Sunday last summer for eight hours we removed or repainted graffiti."

"Some adult graffiti artists have been arrested, but I wanted to focus on youngsters. One of the kids had done the SAES tags. He's looked up to by other graffiti artists, and he was one of the hardest workers. They were all pretty good kids, and they worked hard when they were with me. They cleaned more than twenty



Ian Hammond (with Axl) worked seven-day weeks during the worst of the winter weather. In mid-February, he took his first day off in two months.

different locations, plus I don't know how many utility boxes.

"There's no other program in Michigan like this, though the Lansing DDA is interested," concludes Hickey. "It's a great way to get the message out that cleaning up will be part of the punishment if you're caught."

Seto did all this with just the three new cops council approved in 2013. "When everybody was up to speed in training, we were able to relocate personnel," the chief explains. "Now that we're up to strength, we have more officers available."

The AAPD currently has 116 officers and three open positions. Seto expects to fill those in the next couple of months.

The Big Chill

"I believe we've done more work this year than the past two years combined," says Ian Hammond.

Hammond and partner Paul Ellerholz of Midwest Outdoor Service plowed and shoveled seven days a week during the harsh midwinter weather. January alone recorded more than three feet of snow—the official total was 37.8 inches—setting an all-time record for the month, says U-M meteorologist Dennis Kahlbaum. And it kept piling up: the temperature stayed below freezing nearly all month.

People who didn't have to go out, didn't. "We had one day in December where sales were about half what they should have been," says bookstore owner Nicola Rooney. She doesn't expect to make it up—"lost sales are lost sales forever," she says—but she understands. On the worst days, she called her own employees who lived far away and told them, "I don't want you on the road."

Main Street Area Association Director

Maura Thomson says members told her the bitter weather was the "greatest challenge they've seen in years." Restaurants had it particularly tough, she says, because they staffed for customers who didn't show. Beauty salons and barbershops also lost out. On a very messy day in February, one downtown stylist had five clients cancel.

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
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Inside Ann Arbor

suffered. "January and February are very slow months for us regardless of weather," says Mark Hodesh of Downtown Home and Garden. This year, though, his sales actually went up in January, thanks to a run on shovels and birdseed—"people feel more sorry for birds in cold weather," Hodesh says. And Stadium Hardware, says co-owner Skip Hackbarth, was "extremely busy ... We've sold, between January and February, 2,700 fifty-pound bags of salt. We can go through a mild winter without selling a couple hundred."

AAA Michigan spokesperson Nancy Cain says the insurer helped "nearly twice the number of motorists" this January compared to last. And as cars slid into each other on icy roads, body shops were scrambling. "It's been huge. It's almost overwhelming," says Alan Hukkala, manager at Whitney's Collision. "These storms hit back to back and at bad times—when you drive home or in [to work]. We've seen quite a few [cars] that were unrepairable."

With so many accidents, "even your parts are harder to get," says Hukkala. "All the dealers are currently out" of replacement parts. That's left some people waiting as much as a month to get their cars back.

But no one was busier than the snow removal companies. "If we're not plowing, we're salting. If we're not salting, we're moving piles [of snow] with a loader," Hammond says. Coffee, energy drinks, and his dog, Axl, who travels with him, helped him get him through some twenty-four-hour days in the truck.

Though salt doesn't help when the temperature nears zero, he put it down anyway for customers who demanded it. "If you don't do it, they think you're just being lazy," he says. The snow and cold finally eased up a little in mid-February—allowing Hammond to take his first day off in two months.

The Sleep-Depression Connection

Barb Carter thought she was just a night owl.

The White Lakes Township resident would go on Facebook game binges at 3 a.m., then couldn't focus during meetings the next day. "Half the time, even when I was awake, I was moving too slow and speaking too slow," Carter recalls. "I just wasn't like a functional adult."

Then in her fifties, Carter had battled with depression since adolescence. But it was only recently that she learned that

her depressed moods were linked to her off-kilter internal clock.

"People were used to thinking about psychological states as something really different from our body," says Huda Akil, co-director of the U-M's Molecular & Behavioral Neuroscience Institute and Pritzker Neuropsychiatric Disorders Research Consortium. "The more we study the biology of depression, the more we see they're really closely intertwined."

Akil and other U-M researchers are uncovering the links between depression and circadian rhythms, the biological clocks that make most people energetic in mid-morning, hungry in the afternoon, and tired at night. It turns out that the rhythms of depressed individuals—nearly one in ten Americans—are skewed. That explains their troubled sleep and eating habits, diminished sexual needs, and poor ability to concentrate—and opens a new path to treating mood disorders by resetting sufferers' internal clocks.

U-M genetics prof Jun Li was lead

author on a paper reporting the results of a study of fifty brains. The researchers noted the levels of certain hormones present in the brain at the time of death and matched them to those that are active in the brain at a given time of day. Typically, the brain secretes a stress hormone called cortisol in the morning to get ready for the day's

activities; at night, melatonin prepares the body for sleep.

For healthy individuals, Li's team was able to develop a formula that correlated hormone levels with the person's time of death. But the formula didn't work for people who had suffered from mood disorders—their hormonal cycles were out of whack.

Akil said the consistency of circadian rhythms has an evolutionary basis. Early humans would forage during daylight, so our brains evolved to signal our body to be alert during the day and slumber at night.

Ellen Frank, co-director of the University of Pittsburgh's Bipolar Institute, says that virtually all symptoms of depression run on a twenty-four-hour clock. Even suicidal thoughts and acts tend to occur at certain times. An Italian study found suicidal adolescents most often take their lives in the mid-afternoon while middle-aged people often choose times between 8 and 11 a.m.—partly because of their internal clocks.

Frank explains that most depression cases involve role changes or interpersonal struggles: transitioning from a college student to a cubicle worker, having a major dispute with a child, experiencing the death of a spouse. In the latter case, Frank says, partners have matching routines in sleep and mealtimes. "One adapts to that rhythm, and, when that partner's no longer there, that partner is at loose ends."

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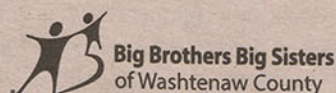
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Inside Ann Arbor

Understanding the importance of circadian rhythms, Akil says, opens new paths to treating mood disorders. Caregivers can focus on identifying disruptions in daily rhythms then look for solutions.

Carter sought help for her disordered sleep in early 2012. She calls her treatment by Dr. Deirdre Conroy at the U-M Behavioral Sleep Medicine Clinic the "linchpin" in restoring her mental health.

Carter's therapy began with sleeping in one block from 5 a.m. to noon, then moving the starting time back fifteen minutes each day. With the assistance of small doses of melatonin, she now falls asleep between 10:30 and 11 p.m. and wakes up before 9 a.m. Carter also exercises for a half-hour every day and eats at typical mealtimes.

Regaining pleasures she'd missed as a night owl, Carter is again enjoying jaunts to the movie theater and inviting people to her home. Retired in her early sixties, she sees herself on an upward trend: "I feel like my world has expanded," she says.

Homeless Gamelan

The Venerable Lake of Honey is under threat.

The University of Michigan's Javanese gamelan, named *Kyai Telaga Madu* ("Venerable Lake of Honey"), was purchased by U-M musicologist Bill Malm in 1966. Two years later music prof Judith Becker formed an ensemble of students and community members to play the ensemble's dozens of instruments. The gamelan is the classical Indonesian orchestra of hammered metal melody instruments, winds, drums, and a big gong. The instruments produce a labyrinth of cycles within cycles within cycles, and their sound carries something of the depth of Indonesia's ancient cultures. The instruments aren't hard to play at a basic level, and for forty-six years they've offered students the chance to experience a different way of looking at, and hearing, the world.

Other American universities also have gamelans, but Michigan's is one of the first and one of the largest, and has spawned one of the deepest networks of connections between Americans and Indonesians. Although funding for its use has trended downward, the Venerable Lake of Honey has attracted visiting musicians, dancers, and puppeteers who are renowned in Java itself. The gamelan's spring concerts, always free, have packed Hill Auditorium with townies and members of the university

community. Javanese arts, wrote doctoral candidate Charley Sullivan, have been "a critical entry point to [Southeast Asia] for many people, including the children who come to the spring concerts and elementary students who receive class visits from our visiting artists or who take field trips to play the gamelan at the Stearns Collection."

Trouble is, the gamelan is about to become homeless. It's always lived at the School of Music on North Campus, but it's attracted more liberal arts types from Central Campus than music students focused on recitals and exams and the Western musical tradition. The music school is about to undergo a renovation that will displace the gamelan from its longtime rehearsal room. In a letter to LS&A dean Susan Gelman, gamelan director Susan Pratt Walton noted that the music school "will have no home for the complete set of instruments after March 1, 2014." Even when the work is finished, Walton says, there's no guarantee that there will be a place for it on North Campus.

Becker and Walton hope LS&A will take on the gamelan—the orchestra, Walton notes, has "launched [students] into international studies. That happens over and over again." LS&A hasn't said no, but it hasn't made any commitments, either. A combination of space limitations and an administrative transition, from the university presidency on down, has left a lot of decision making up in the air. "It's not that nobody sympathizes; it's 'We think it's a good idea, but it's somebody else's problem,'" Becker says. And a university facilities manager told Walton that there was "absolutely no space" for the gamelan anywhere on Central Campus.

If you've got extra space and think you'd like to hear the sound Claude Debussy described as "fantastically rich—melodically, rhythmically, texture (such orchestration!) and above all formally" around the house, Walton says she would "absolutely" explore the idea of a new off-campus home for the gamelan—as long as it's close enough for students to get to. It can be stored fairly compactly, but needs a room about the size of a university classroom to set up.

Tim Athan

Life in Ann Arbor

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Inside Ann Arbor

Rockin' with Zelda

Who's that fashionable figure on the porch at 406 E. Liberty?

In her leopard-skin leggings, leather jacket, and long blonde hair, she's out there every day, rocking in her antique chair. She seems to be looking for something, and she is—not a lost love, but customers for PhoneHome Repair, the Apple and Samsung Galaxy repair and accessory business owned by Kort Linden and his fiancée, Katrina Chizek.

"Zelda's a real attention whore," says Linden of the mannequin, who took up her post within weeks of the store's opening last March.

The roots of the business are in California, where Linden's brother, Kohl, started a cell phone repair business out of his car in 2010. It did well enough that Kort helped Kohl open a store, and then opened one of his own. Their father—an "inventor, tinkerer, marketer, and entrepreneur"—invented a mobile billboard attached to a motor scooter, then later to a power wheelchair, that traversed the surrounding neighborhood to market the business. The overwhelmingly positive response prompted Kort to open two more stores there.

The business and his future changed when Chizek, a musical theater performer, stopped in for a phone repair. The couple, in their mid-twenties, fell for each other. They decided to move to Michigan last year after visiting Chizek's family over the holidays, recalling how much they loved Michigan's changing seasons,



MARK BIALEK

Kort Linden's father deamed up the store's marketing mannequin. A windshield-wiper motor keeps Zelda rocking.

and finding the Liberty St. storefront available.

Linden's father, ever the marketer, recommended a sign-wearing mannequin to promote the new store. "I looked at some," says Linden, "but none seemed durable enough for Michigan weather." But then he thought that if the mannequin kept moving, the elements would have less chance to do damage.

He and Chizek shopped thrift stores until they found an antique rocker to complement their store's vintage architecture, then, with the help of an engineer friend, rigged a windshield-wiper motor and marine-grade battery to provide the motion. They then dressed Zelda and secured

calls & letters

Launching the PTO Thrift Shop

"I would never scream—that's not my personality," Ann Arbor PTO Thrift Shop founder Ann Holz said in a phone call. Our February Inside Ann Arbor on the shop quoted board chair Janet Frisch's recollection that Holz was so tired of traditional school fundraisers that "she could scream." We could and should have asked Holz herself.

We did quote Holz in a 1996 Marketplace Changes item on the shop—and if we'd reread that piece, Holz noted, we could have avoided another error: the relative she visited in Chapel Hill, where she got the idea, "wasn't my sister, it was my sister-in-law." Holz also stressed that though its first sale was held at Tappan Middle School, the PTO Thrift Shop was never a Tappan

project—it was always intended to benefit the entire district.

Donor corrections

Pat Lesko called to dispute her place on our list of Ann Arbor's Top Ten Political Contributors (February). We'd shown her giving a total of \$7,849 to her 2010 mayoral campaign, putting her at #4 on the list.

Lesko is correct: her campaign reported total contributions of \$7,849, but only \$2,625 from the candidate herself.

Kathy Griswold pointed out another serious error: we'd tallied expenditures Monique Wardner and Pat Johnston made on behalf of Jane Lumm's campaign as contributions by them.

We apologize for the errors. A corrected and updated list will appear next month.

her to the chair. Her name, Linden says, is a tribute to the video game *The Legend of Zelda*.

Zelda also has blue and brown wigs, often wearing the blue during Michigan football games and patriotic holidays. Balloons and an easel joined her on the porch during the Art Fair. She wore a cat mask for Halloween, a cheesy Christmas sweater with embedded flashing lights, and sparkly attire for New Year's Eve. The hard-working mannequin, who spends her nights safely inside the store, also routinely shows off the store's accessories. Several customers have come in asking for the iPhone armband that she wears.

The couple estimates that they've spent about \$300 on their display doll. "She's been worth every penny and more," Linden says, "because she gets people to notice us."

"She definitely has a fan club," adds Chizek, noting the many passersby who stop to take pictures and videos. "We have one gentleman who comes in to let us know if she isn't rocking properly."

Has anyone tried to purloin the lady or her retail accessories as she rocks away her days? "No," says Linden, "because she's attached to the chair and always moving."

question corner

Q. I could swear that when I first moved to A2 in 1960, there was a road named Glacier Way that is now known as Glazier Way. Am I hallucinating or was the road that was named for a geological phenomenon at some point changed to commemorate an installer of glass? If so, when and why?

A. The road name honors an Ann Arbor pioneer family (active with the Underground Railway and the Quaker Church). Originally spelled "Glazier," it was accidentally changed to "Glacier" in the 1940s by a Detroit Edison street crew.

In 1987, the Ann Arbor City Council, Ann Arbor Township, and the Washtenaw County Road Commission agreed to change the name back to "Glazier." The day of the council vote, the *Ann Arbor News* ran a letter to the editor from local historian Susan Wineberg, citing evidence that family members actually spelled their name Glasier.

That wasn't enough to stop the momentum to return to the original spelling—but months later, Wineberg heard from a member of the Glasier family, confirming that her spelling was correct. The U-M North Campus stands on part of the old Glasier Farm.

Got a question? Email question@aaobserver.com



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Registration is underway for summer day camps in the Ann Arbor parks. Our five camps offer swimming, canoeing, golfing, science, crafts and more. Details: www.a2gov.org/camps. To register: www.a2gov.org/parks. Enjoy a \$20 discount if you register by March 15 for Buhr or Fuller Park Pool Day Camps.

Instructional skating lessons

Register for the last session of Veterans Memorial Park Indoor Ice Arena's (2150 Jackson Road) Instructional Skating/Hockey Program. **Session 4** | March 24 to May 3 (6 classes) \$55 resident/\$67 nonresident. Details: 734.794.6235, www.a2gov.org/vets.

Do you love to skating + the outdoors?

• Join us for public skating at Buhr Park Outdoor Ice Arena (2751 Packard Road), 734.794.6234. Our season runs from through March 30, on the following days: Sunday, 3:15 to 5:30 p.m.; Tuesday, 7:45 to 8:45 p.m. (half price and broom ball); Wednesday, 4:45 to 5:45 p.m. (half price and broom ball) and 7:15 to 8:45 p.m.; Thursday and Friday, 7:15 to 8:45 p.m.; Saturday, 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. and 7:15 to 8:45 p.m.

• Buhr Park also has drop-in hockey and sticks and pucks on Monday: 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. (drop-in women only) and 8:45 to 9:45 p.m. (drop-in men only 18+); Tuesday: 5:30 to 6:15 p.m. (sticks & pucks all ages); 9 to 10 p.m. (drop-in men only); Wednesday: 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. (drop-in all ages); Thursday: 9 to 10 p.m. (drop-in all ages); Friday: 4:30 to 5:45 p.m. (Ringette drop-in all ages); Saturday: 1:15 to 2:15 p.m. (drop-in all ages).

Lifeguard certification courses

The Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation American Red Cross lifeguard certification program is open to all ages (minimum age is 15 years old). Participants gain valuable experience to prepare them to be lifeguards when they turn 16. Fifteen year olds who complete this course will be eligible for the city's Lifeguard in Training Volunteer Program and receive the following American Red Cross certifications: Lifeguarding, First Aid, CPR and AED. Each class meeting will include classroom (taught at Buhr Park Pool) and pool time (taught at Mack Indoor Pool). Register by calling 734.794.6237 or go in person to Mack Indoor Pool (715 Brooks St., inside Ann Arbor Open School). Fee: \$175.

- Session 2 | Buhr Park Pool, 2781 Packard Road | Fridays, March 21 and March 28, 5 to 9 p.m.
- Session 2 | Mack Indoor Pool, 715 Brooks Street | Saturdays, March 22 and March 29, 1 to 6 p.m. Sundays, March 23 and March 30, 1 to 6 p.m.

Water aerobics is a great workout

Mack Indoor Pool (715 Brooks Street) is offering water aerobics for swimmers and non-swimmers alike. You'll experience the fun of a water exercise program including low-impact aerobic conditioning. Everyone is welcome to our ramp-entry accessible pool. **Session 4** | Tuesdays, March 11 – May 6 | (no class April 8), 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Fees: \$55 resident/\$70 nonresident. Details: 734.794.6237.

New log rolling event at Mack Indoor Pool

We're having a friends and family log rolling day on Tuesday, March 11 at Mack Indoor Pool (715 Brook Street). Sessions include: 1-1:45 p.m., 2-2:45 p.m., 3-3:45 p.m. and 4-4:45 p.m. The cost is \$20 for a group of 5! (\$5 extra for additional people up to 10). Details: 734.794.6237, www.a2gov.org/mack.

American Red Cross Swim Lessons for all skill levels

You can still sign up for American Red Cross Swim Lessons at Mack Indoor Pool (715 Brooks Street). Lessons are offered for children ages six months through adult beginners. Class size is limited. **Session 4** | Tuesdays, March 11 – May 6 (no class April 8) | Saturdays, March 15 – May 10 (no class April 12) | Sundays, March 16 – May 12 (no class April 13). Details: 734.794.6237, www.a2gov.org/mack.

Mark your March calendar for two cultural arts series events

The Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation Cultural Arts Series is made possible by a grant from the Kiwanis Club of Ann Arbor. Programs are held at the Ann Arbor Senior Center (1320 Baldwin Avenue). Note: Seating is limited, so please reserve early. Reservations: 734.794.6250. \$5 general admission; \$4 for 60 years and older. Free for Ann Arbor Senior Center members and children 12 and under if accompanied by an adult.

• Saturday, March 1, 4-6 p.m. Susan Bloye, acrylic paint art show. The Ann Arbor Senior Center will host a show of her acrylic studies of flowers (through May).

• Sunday, March 16, 1 p.m. Skylark: American Roots & Irish Tunes. Betsy Beckerman and Skylark inspire with a gentle tune on the hammered dulcimer, raise spirits with toe-tapping fiddle tunes, and get everyone singing with their engaging harmonies. Paul, Sara, David and Betsy present American roots music and Irish tunes for St. Patrick's Day.

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Outside



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When the Grass Dances

Catching winter's light and wind.

The sun likes to play peek-a-boo with the clouds during the winter, but there are plants that do a pretty good job of catching whatever light shines through. Some dormant ornamental perennial grasses fall within this category. At their best, sunstruck maiden grass plumes can glitter like a collection of miniature star-studded galaxies caught at the ends of balloon sticks.

These grasses not only grab the sun's brightness; they often take it for a dance, which may be a waltz, a samba, or anything in between or beyond. Any breeze at all will set a tempo, and the reflected sunlight will obligingly sway to the same silent tune.

The accompanying image of maiden grass was taken on one of those "partly cloudy" days. The sky was gray, then opened up bit by bit; the sun shone brightly, and the grass caught its light. Eventually, the cloud curtains closed again. The grass stayed there, waiting on the dance floor for the next shaft of sunlight to come along.

The day was cool, around twenty-seven degrees, with a breeze adding a windchill factor. When the clouds parted, they revealed a blue sky that was indescribably intense in color. Winter blue. The grass,

the clouds, the sky, the sun, the breeze, the sharp air, the honking of the Canada geese, and no doubt other elements not consciously noted all combined to make it an exuberant moment to be alive. Outside.

The rise in use of ornamental grasses is often attributed to a creative landscape expert, Wolfgang Oehme. Oehme and his partner, James van Sweden, are credited with creating the New American Garden style. Some would call it a movement. At its heart, it's an attempt to create a naturalistic-looking garden environment, one that calls to mind the American prairie.

Despite this American emphasis, their designs incorporated both native and non-native plants: maiden grass, for example, is native to East Asia.

While Oehme liked to use large masses of plants, the popularity of ornamental grasses has trickled down

to even the most space-constrained environments. There are many types of ornamental grasses, many of them planted with the idea of "winter interest" in mind. Their height, structure, color, and movement add attraction to what is often a still, monochromatic winter environment.

Maiden grass is popular with landscapers and gardeners, and small plantings are sprinkled around homes and businesses all over Ann Arbor. To see bunches of maiden grass all in one place, try Gallup Park, where the grass is planted extensively on a large traffic island at the entrance from Fuller Road. It also lines a walkway to the left of the island as you enter the park. The grass shines on sunny winter days.

—Bob and Jorja Feldman

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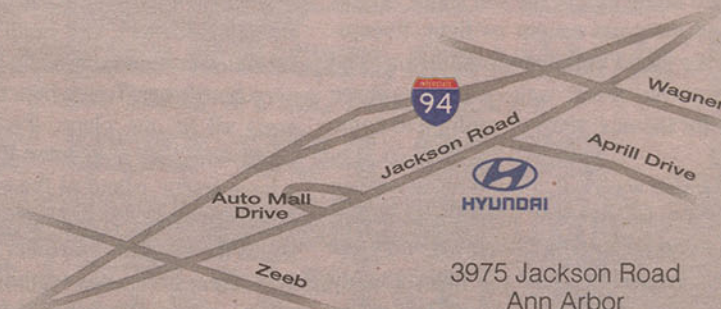


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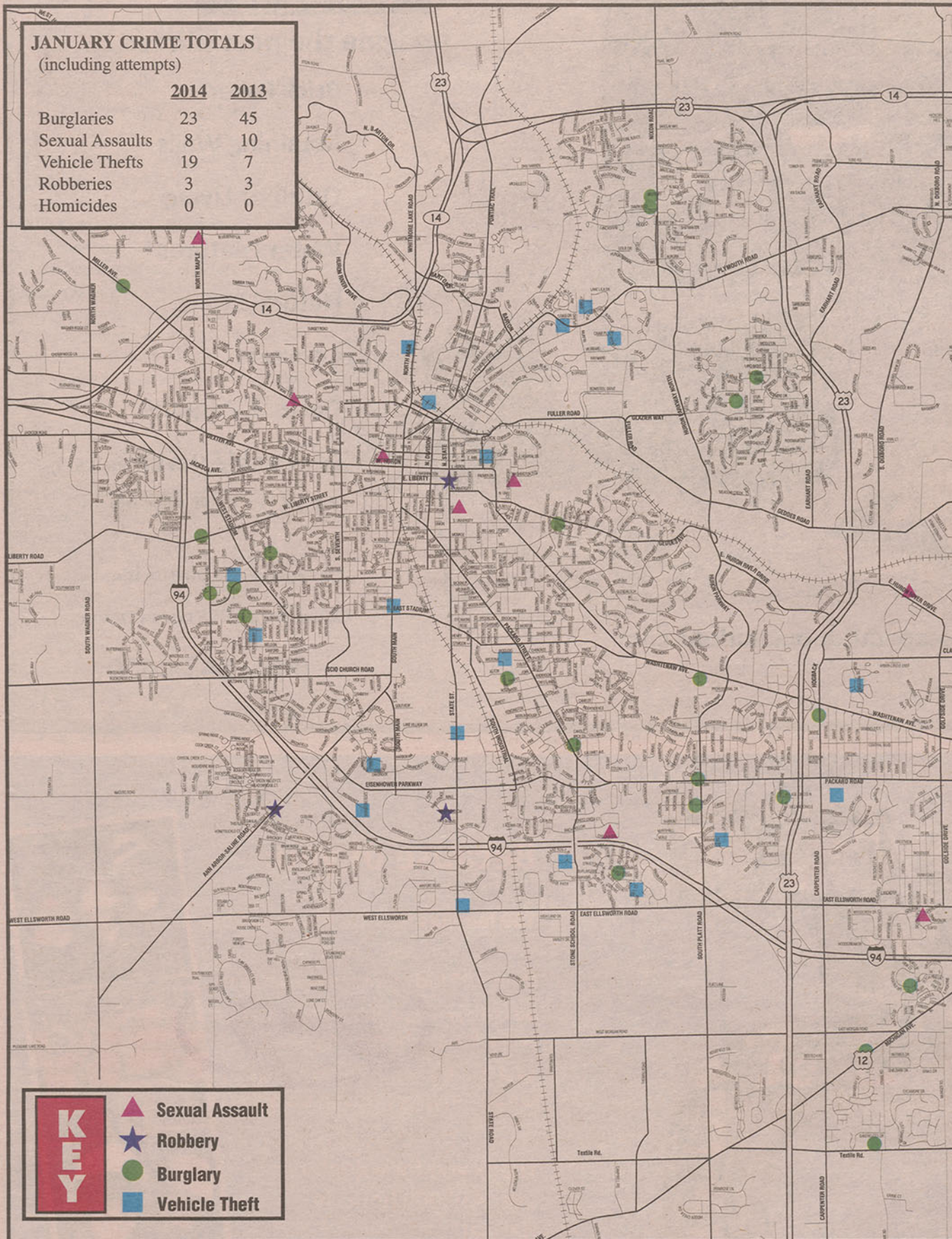


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CrimeMap



These are the major crimes and attempted crimes at Ann Arbor addresses reported by the Ann Arbor Police Department and the public safety departments of the U-M and Pittsfield Township in **January 2014**. Placement is approximate.

The Ann Arbor and Pittsfield departments have moved to a centralized record-keeping system run by crimemapping.com. As a result, they no longer are able to distinguish crimes from attempts, or sexual assaults by acquaintances from assaults by strangers.

If you need police help in an emergency, call **911**. If you have information about a crime, call your police department's anonymous **24-hour tip line**: 996-3199 in Ann Arbor, (800) 863-1355 on campus, or 944-1238 in Pittsfield Township. If you have questions about a crime shown here, call Ann Arbor Neighborhood Watch (994-8775, Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-4 p.m.), the U-M Department of Public Safety (763-1131), or the Pittsfield Township Department of Public Safety (944-4911).

The box at the top of the map compares the number of crimes reported in January 2014 and January 2013.

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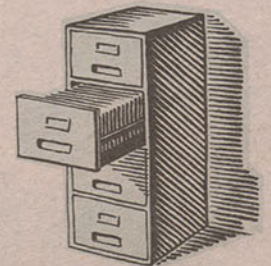


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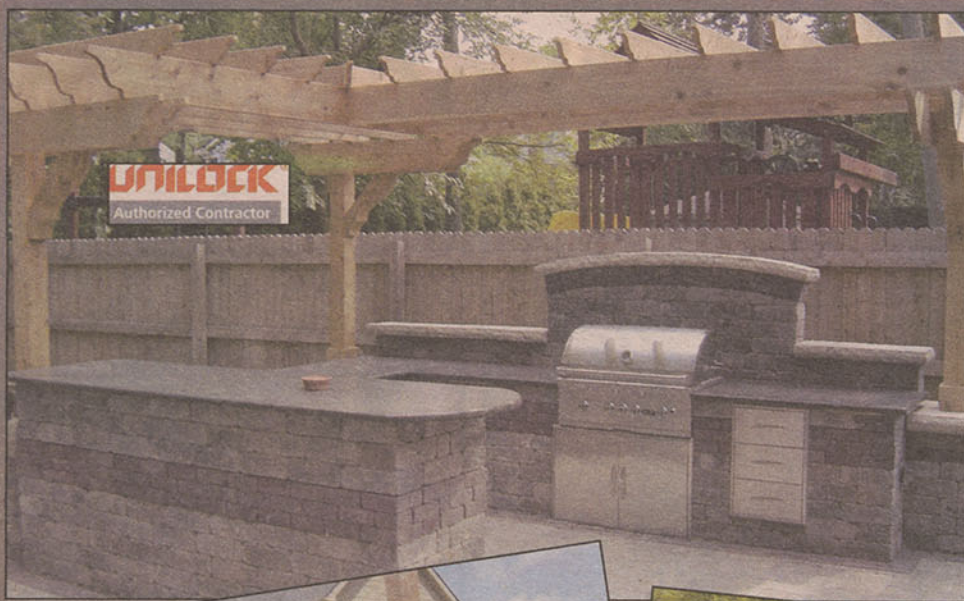
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Ann Arborites

Josh Greenberg

Med student
and nonprofit CEO

Josh Greenberg has just landed in Uganda. It's the summer after his sophomore year at Duke, where he founded a nonprofit called the Progressive Health Partnership. He's raised the money to start a small medical program in Uganda, enough to help 1,600 pregnant women for a few months. But, after conducting a few focus groups, he realizes that in the country's rural southwest, the villagers' main concern is not antenatal health, but something even more basic: access to safe drinking water.

Greenberg was taken aback. "We had no funding" for a water project, he recalls now. But he quickly changed the trajectory of his organization. "We had to emphasize to them that we couldn't make any guarantees. We told them, 'We're going to go back to the States and do everything we can to obtain funds for this, but we can't promise anything.'"

A year later, Greenberg was back in Uganda. He'd raised nearly \$200,000 in funding from the Ronald McDonald House to launch a rainwater-harvesting program, installing seventy-six 20,000-liter collection tanks in public buildings throughout the region.

After unveiling the project, Greenberg stopped to see a local shopkeeper who had been a member of a focus group the year before. He says she told him: "We can't believe that you all are bringing this program here. We thought you were joking with us."

At twenty-five, Greenberg has a narrow face, dark hair, and a friendly smile. As CEO of Progressive Health Partnership, he's responsible for a six-figure budget, five workers in Uganda, five U.S.-based staff members, and twenty-six community health workers. He's also in his first year of a seven-year program at

the U-M to earn both an MD and a PhD in economics.

Sitting in his apartment near the Medical Center, Greenberg, a high school debate star, converses carefully but earnestly. Though he has a few mementos of Uganda—a wood carving of the country's coat of arms, a cloth hanging stitched with a few words of thanks from his employees there—Greenberg lives a life of asceticism. He devotes himself completely to his work, getting most animated when

the conversation turns to the relationship between nonprofit organizations and their donors. When asked what he does for fun, he answers: "The thing I enjoy most is just talking to people."

Greenberg launched PHP in 2007 as a freshman at Duke with his friend and hall mate, Eddie Zhang. At first they were interested in getting mosquito nets to villagers in sub-Saharan Africa to combat malaria. But as the two learned more about the region, one of the poorest parts of the

world, "we started to realize we wanted to do something much broader, much more long-term," Greenberg says. The friends eventually connected with a Ugandan physician visiting Duke, who told them firsthand stories of the country's struggles to reduce deaths from childbearing. For the last twenty years, maternal and neonatal mortality in Uganda has plateaued at a persistently high figure of about forty-nine per 1,000 live births, compared to about six in the U.S.

Greenberg launched Progressive Health Partnership in 2007 as a freshman at Duke with his friend and hall mate, Eddie Zhang. At first they were interested in getting mosquito nets to villagers in sub-Saharan Africa to combat malaria. But as the two learned more about the region, one of the poorest parts of the world, "we started to realize we wanted to do something much broader, much more long-term," Greenberg says.

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Ann Arborites



COURTESY JOSH GREENBERG

Greenberg with colleague Jordan Batesiswiba in Uganda. PHP has five staffers in the country and twenty-six community health workers. Its major initiative in maternal and infant mortality is titled "Omukazi Namagari"—which in Runyankore, the official language of the region, means "the woman is life."

Greenberg and Zhang formed their NGO with a three-pronged approach of research, service, and advocacy. "To this day it still blows me away that Josh and Eddie had this vision as first-year undergraduates," Duke physician Alex Cho told *Duke Today*, "and found so many other committed undergraduates to join them."

PHP's major initiative in maternal and infant mortality is titled "Omukazi Namagari"—which in Runyankore, the official language of the region, means "the woman is life." In two years, the number of antenatal visits to PHP's health centers has more than doubled. Ultimately, Greenberg sees PHP expanding into other arenas of health care—and perhaps beyond that into economic and societal issues.

Greenberg has always been sensitive to social inequity. Hailing from Homewood, Illinois, a middle-class suburb close to Chicago's South Side, he recalls driving past poverty-stricken neighborhoods on his way back from school events. He came to realize that many of the opportunities at his fingertips were a product of being born into affluence. Upon entering college, he resolved to throw himself into projects dedicated to reducing global inequity.

Family tragedy gave his idealism focus. Greenberg lost his older brother and sister to a rare genetic disorder called Canavan Disease. His parents became deeply involved in the research to find its cause, donating many autopsy samples to a scientist at the University of Illinois—Chicago who was studying its genetic basis. The scientist soon identified the Canavan gene—then moved to a different medical institution where he patented it. Wanting

the information to be freely accessible, the Greenberg family sued the scientist. Their lawsuit was a precursor to last year's Supreme Court decision that rejected a patent on the BRCA genes for breast cancer.

"That's what really showed me how medicine goes far beyond science," Greenberg says. "That's what made me realize there are these really significant policy issues" that affect people's health.

Despite his busy school schedule, Greenberg manages to devote about twenty hours a week to PHP, mostly on nights and weekends. It helps considerably, he says, that the medical school operates on a flexible time schedule. Most professors do not require students to attend lectures in person—they can just watch them online. Currently, he's working on restructuring PHP's board of directors (last month, he was planning a quick trip to Minneapolis to interview a potential new board member), applying for grants, and looking into the possibility of investing PHP's grant money in local Ugandan businesses.

Greenberg admits that it can be difficult balancing school with his nonprofit work, but he views his studies in medicine and economics as essential complements to his driving interest of global health equity. While medical care operates in the short term, to help individuals, economics is long term and focused on underlying causes. "When you feel that everything you do serves a purpose," he says, "it becomes much easier to do it."

—Jennifer Xu

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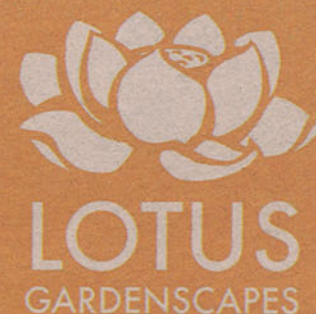
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Nerdy Flirty

Speed dating at the Vault of Midnight

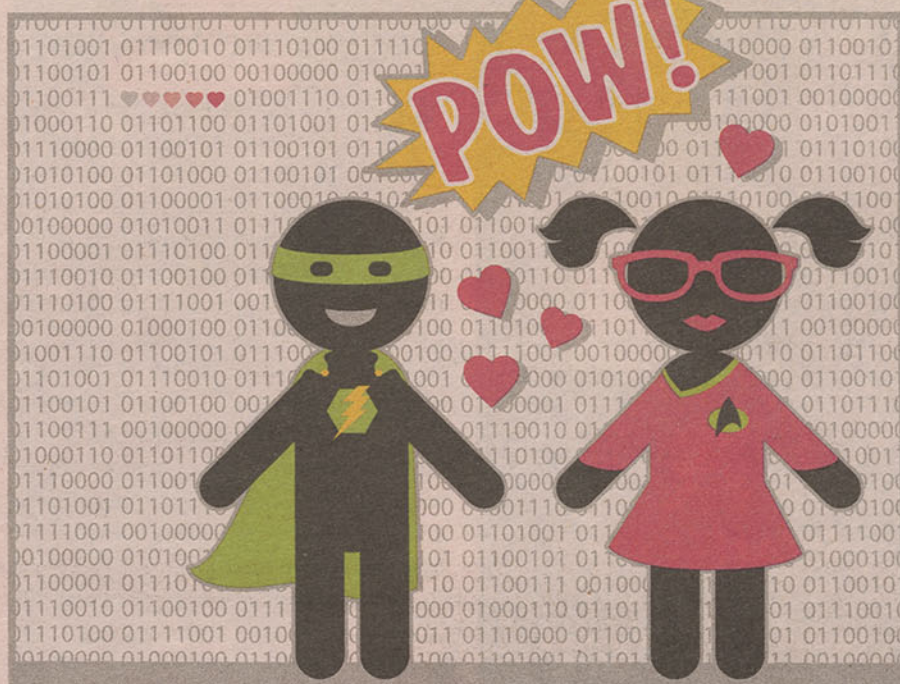
Upstairs at the Vault of Midnight, customers peruse comic books, toys, and other pop culture knickknacks. Downstairs, past a smattering of superhero posters, past shelves of indie comics, past a room full of board games and back issues of more comics, eight gray plastic tables wait to be occupied. It's a frigid, blustery night, but soon a couple dozen self-proclaimed nerds looking to meet other nerds will fill these tables.

This is the third installment of Nerdy Flirty Speed Dating, the brainchild of Nerd Life Productions. Nerd Life comprises four friends: Josh Schramm, Daniel Loines, Will Blattman, and Marcus Schwimmer. Schramm says their only goal is to make enough money to continue doing events—they use the seven-dollar registration fee from the daters to rent the Vault's basement and pay for materials and refreshments.

"We just want to create ways for the nerd community to do things ... I don't want to stereotype anyone and say we are trying to get anyone out of their parents' basements," says Schramm with a laugh. "Nerd culture has become so normalized." Schramm, twenty-eight, says they started the event because they would have loved something like it when they were younger. They also host a podcast—"Two Nerds and a Wookie"—and put on the *Lord of the Rings*-themed "Trivia Night in the Shire," also at the Vault.

Liz Sullivan, the store's general manager, says the speed dating caters to the crowd that frequents the shop, giving them one more reason to visit the store.

Back in the basement, people begin filling the room—the women first. Each of them sits facing the door where a Cobra banner, from the cartoon *G.I. Joe*, hangs. Schwimmer gives the ladies a pep talk about the event's mechanics. Each man will sit across from a woman of his choice, and the two will have three-and-



"April O'Neil"—the reporter friend of the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles—sits next to a statuesque woman whose name tag reads "Harley Quinn," the female sidekick to the Joker in DC's Batman series.

a-half minutes to talk. Then, the men will rotate. Each of the twelve women will get to talk to each of the thirteen men.

The participants, who are all between twenty and thirty-five, wear nametags with a randomly assigned nerd moniker. "April O'Neil"—the reporter friend of the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles—sits next to a statuesque woman whose nametag reads "Harley Quinn," the female sidekick to the Joker in DC's *Batman* series.

The men, who have just heard a similar speech from Schramm upstairs, file in. The room erupts into a cacophony of conversation.

A dark-haired bearded man sits across from a slim, stylishly dressed woman.

"I'm Captain James T. Kirk," he says, shaking her hand.

"I'm Poison Ivy," she replies.

"How dangerous," he says, smiling.

Jon Smith (nerd alias: Captain Malcolm Reynolds from the cult TV show *Firefly*) asks a redhead with several facial piercings—twenty-year old Jenny Blattman, sister to Nerd Life's Will—what kind of video games she plays. Most of the dialogue, though, sounds no different from that of a typical date. People discuss work. They discuss school and the weather. In typical Michigander fashion, a man wearing a Spiderman nametag points to his hand, and the woman sitting across from him does the same, to show where they're from.

After every three rounds, there's a break to let the daters write down comments. Then Schwimmer shouts "Switch!" and the men rotate again.

While the nerd daters chat, the organizers bicker like old friends. Schwimmer, dressed in a crisp white dress shirt, slacks, tie, and Space Invaders socks, has an eso-

teric conversation about the difference between an X-wing and a B-wing in the *Star Wars* universe.

The daters have been given slips on which to write their alter egos, real names, and contact information. When everyone has had a chance to talk to every potential date, Schwimmer asks the daters to approach two tables and place their contact slip in the envelope of anyone they'd like to see again. Schwimmer interrupts the chatter to have people weigh in on whether Iron Man and Captain America are A-list superheroes.

"It was less awkward than I thought it would be," Smith says afterward. "I didn't go into it expecting much. It felt friendly. I'd do it again."

A man who asks to be identified only by his alter ego, "Martian Manhunter," says the "nerd" topics were a good ice-breaker. However, he wished he had had more time to talk.

"I feel like a lot of conversations got cut off just when we were getting started," he says. "But if I had a minute more, I probably would have wanted another minute."

"Ms. Marvel" wears horn-rimmed glasses and a bob cut. She attended the previous session and says that while this round was better organized, she clicked better with people last time. However, she liked the experience enough to bring a friend, who also declines to give her real name, going only by Storm.

Jenny Blattman, who's new to town, says she figured she'd see if she could get to know some people who share her interest in comics, TV shows, and movies. But she doesn't give out her contact info to anyone.

The event exposed her to new people, Storm says. While she enjoys many so-called nerdy things, she isn't actively into any fandom.

Ms. Marvel says being into comics and cartoons isn't something she can discuss with colleagues at the university.

"Most people in the academic community think it's lame," she says. "These people don't think it's lame."

—David Alexander



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My Town

Fandom and Family

The sporting Sperlings

When a theatergoing friend and I finally made it to a production of Detroit's celebrated Mosaic Youth Theatre, I had an ulterior motive: I hoped we might run into Rick Sperling, Mosaic's founder and director. I wondered if he'd recall the time I took him and his dad, Larry, to a Tigers game.

I was hazy about the details, and figured he might be, too—it had been more than thirty years earlier, when he was in his early teens. But the memory stayed with me, in part because it represented a rare overlap between my passions for baseball and the arts.

At intermission, I was scanning the crowd in hopes of a sighting when I saw someone trotting toward us out of the corner of my eye. "Jeff! Jeff! It's Rick Sperling!" he cried, shaking my hand as vigorously as if he wanted my vote. "I still remember going to the Tiger game with you."

I hadn't even had to ask. But his vivid recollection fit the picture he later limned of the hold sports have had on him and his family.

Like many kids who grew up in Ann Arbor, the children of Larry and Doris Sperling are far-flung now. Mike, the oldest, is an attorney in Milwaukee. Gene, the second-oldest, whom Rick refers to as "my now-famous brother," is director of the National Economic Council under President Obama, a position he also held in the Clinton administration. Anne, the only daughter, is an immunologist in Chicago. Rick is the youngest and the least-flung geographically.

But their collective fervor for the Tigers, Lions, Pistons, and U-M sports has kept them more closely knit than their locations would suggest. "What's really been meaningful about sports in my life has been the connections that you develop with your family and friends around these things," says Rick.

That insight came to him all too vividly in 1984, when he was studying acting in New York while the Tigers marched to a world championship.

He went to a Yankees game alone. He went to a Mets game alone. It wasn't the same. "That was the first time it really clicked for me that there's an incredible amount of dead time in a baseball game, and you go with your father or brother or a friend, because you're sitting in that chair with nowhere to go for two and a half, three hours, and you have to talk."

Perversely, the Tigers' triumph was even harder to handle. "I watched the Tigers win the World Series on a giant screen in the middle of Times Square," he says. "And after we won, I called my father,

I called my brother, and I couldn't get through, and then I had to go to class.

"I think I had always thought winning a World Series would make all the years of suffering as a fan worthwhile, yet when I finally got to the dream, it was kind of an empty experience because I wasn't sharing it with my family. That's when it clicked for me how sports connects you with people."

It remains his one surefire connection with his brother Gene. "He's very hard to get a hold of these days, but every big Michigan game or Detroit game, I'll get a text or call," he says. "Otherwise, it takes weeks."

One of the family's favorite stories is about the time Gene called from Beijing for updates on a Michigan football game while he was involved in high-level trade negotiations. "Every fifty minutes, they'd take a ten-minute break, and he'd use it to call and find out what was happening," Rick recalls.

"People in the arts don't understand," he says. "It really is drama. It's not just watching the game, but you get to know the players and their stories. The story of [U-M quarterback] Denard Robinson was very compelling to me as a person. When I got a chance to meet him, one of the things I said to him was 'Thank you for enriching my life. You brought me a lot of joy.'"

And I had been a part of one of those joyous occasions. I was covering the Tigers for Booth Newspapers, in 1979 or '80, and the long-gone Black Sheep Theater in Manchester held an auction to raise money. One of the prizes was attending a game with me, with a locker room visit part of the bargain. I introduced Rick and Larry to Sparky Anderson, Steve Kemp, Alan Trammell, and Rick's favorite player in those days, Champ Summers. "I remember my father said he was 'one big muscle,'" he says.

"The only two things I remember about it are deciding to bid for you in that auction for Rick, and how you kept on complaining about people getting up and down during the game," says Larry Sperling. "It was a very unusual thing for me to do—I don't think I ever bid in an auction before—but it was a great thing for Rick."

Rick still has the column I wrote about the experience in his scrapbook, along with the pictures his dad took that night ("the only Tiger pictures I have"), a drawing Rick made of former Michigan football star Harlan Huckleby that Huckleby autographed, and a legion of other Wolverine-cum-Sperling artifacts.

"To me, sports is like experiencing this catharsis that you get when you see a great play," Rick says. "You may cry when you lose or feel on top of the world when you win, but at the end of the day it doesn't make any difference. It's not life and death."

But it is a tie that binds. "When Michigan loses a big game, calling and talking it over with the family is part of the mourning process," Rick says. "And yet it's still something that brings us together."

—Jeff Mortimer

DIY Lumberjack

*Johnny Appleseed
in reverse*

"Do you need any tree trimming?" I had just pulled into my driveway when he hailed me: a young man in work clothes and a knapsack, coming up the walk. He handed me a badly Xeroxed leaflet and explained that he was a tree cutter and needed work.

I live in a neighborhood of mature—overly mature—trees. The handsome maples on the easement are the city's problem, but there are plenty of overgrown trees in my yard.

It was the end of January, snow was knee deep, and the temperature was in the teens. The tree-trimming stranger surveyed my yard. "Is that birch tree starting to die? Thought so, they aren't very good trees. That Japanese maple is scraping the garage and will be worse in a few years. The spruce in front would give you a lot more light if you took some lower limbs off."

He was right on all counts, but I was getting cold, and I was having trouble deciding how much tree trimming to trust to this stranger who had just appeared from nowhere. "Come inside, and let me think a minute," I said, making a welcoming move toward my door.

"Ma'am, if I were a plumber, I'd be inside looking at your pipes, but I'm a tree trimmer, so I'm outside looking at your trees." He remained rooted to the spot.

He eyed a thirty-foot fir on the back corner of my property behind the garage. This is such a stupid tree, I don't even like to think about it. It was planted about six feet away from a maple, and now that they're mature, it grows right through the maple's canopy, doing nothing except occupying space that might otherwise make a nice shade garden. It's also dangerously close to a nexus of power lines. "That tree shouldn't be there. I'll take it down for \$100. Please. I really need the work."

I could see how this could be a dangerous bargain. I should be thinking of liability issues; he should be thinking of being fried by a power line, impalement, or a thirty-foot fall. Instead, I found myself saying "Deal. When?"

"Now. It will be gone in a few hours. I'll stack the branches on the side of the street."

I looked around for his truck and prepared myself for the roar of a chainsaw. Instead, he opened his knapsack, took out a bow saw, grasped the lowest limb of the tree, and climbed to the top. Quietly and efficiently, he sawed off branches that floated down into the snow. An hour and a half later, the tree had been reduced to a pile on the easement and a ten-foot-long pole lying next to my garage. He assured me a friend of his would come pick it up unless I knew someone who wanted it.

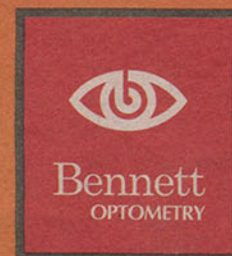
He hadn't asked to be paid in cash, but was appreciative when I offered. He put the saw back in his knapsack and disappeared.



—Sally Mitani



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Then & Now

301 S. Main

The best corner in Ann Arbor

Elaine Selo, co-owner of the Selo/Shevel Gallery, calls its longtime location at 301 S. Main “the best corner in Ann Arbor. The building’s changes over the past 142 years mirror downtown’s evolution. Built in 1871 by German immigrant Henry Binder, it originally housed Binder’s third-story saloon as well as his own large family. In the twentieth century, when downtown was the county’s shopping center, Hutzel’s Ladies Apparel sold upscale women’s dresses on the corner from 1916 until 1989, when it was purchased by Selo and Cynthia Shevel, her partner in both life and business. Now 301 S. Main has been sold again, and its next use will doubtless reflect downtown’s changing character.

Binder immigrated to Ann Arbor in 1852 at age twenty-one. Discovering there was only one small hotel in town, he built another one by the railroad station. It did well, and with the proceeds he began erecting brick commercial buildings downtown.

When the shopping district expanded south from the courthouse square on N. Main, Binder tore down his home to construct the building that still stands at 301 S. Main. Done in the Commercial Italianate style, with tall windows capped with ornate hoods and brackets at the roofline, it blended well with the other buildings then going up nearby. Binder moved into the second floor with his wife and eleven children. On the taller top floor, he opened a “lager beer and refreshment saloon” that he named Orchestrion Hall after its entertainment system: a sort of giant music box that could imitate the sound of a wind orchestra.

In 1877, recent immigrants Samuel and John Baumgardner opened a grocery store and bakery on the street level. “They started in business in a humble way, and scarcely knowing any of the English language,” the 1881 *History of Washtenaw County, Michigan* reported. In 1880 the Baumgardners built a “large and commodious bakery” at the back of the building and quickly gained a reputation for being some of the best bakers in the county. Their ads mention “greatly celebrated Vienna Bread” as well as an array of housewares for sale, including crockery, china, and glassware. When the Baumgardners moved to a new location in 1892, the storefront became a showroom for the Ann Arbor Organ company, whose factory was a few blocks away.

By the time the German American Bank moved into 301 S. Main in 1906, Italianate was considered old-fashioned and overly ornate. The bank simplified the brackets, took off the window hoods, squared the windows, and made the pilasters (fake



(Clockwise from above) Elaine Selo remembers the opening of Selo/Shevel Gallery as a “trial by fire.” Henry Binder named his Orchestrion Hall for its mechanical orchestra. Hutzel’s Ladies Apparel after an updating in the 1930s. The Ann Arbor Organ Company showroom at the turn of the twentieth century, before the building’s original Commercial Italianate details were removed.



BENTLEY HISTORICAL LIBRARY



COURTESY SUSAN WINEBERG

columns) larger and blockier. They added more light by putting in oriel windows on the second floor and Luxfer windows on the first, both in style at that time. (Luxfer windows incorporate prisms to project more light into a building’s interior.)

The next tenant, Charles Hutzel, had managed the ladies’ ready-to-wear department at Mack’s, then the city’s major department store, before going into business for himself in 1916. When Charles died in 1943, his son Ray took over, running Hutzel’s Ladies Apparel until 1969, when he sold the business to George and Mary Dibble.

Connie Osler recalls Hutzel’s as the place to go if you wanted something sophisticated to wear for a special occasion. The only other place selling clothes of this caliber was a special department in Goodyear’s department store. “They had wonderful personnel attached to beautiful clothing,” recalls Molly Dobson, another Hutzel’s shopper. “As soon as you put your foot in the door, you were warmly welcomed.” Dobson adds that Hutzel’s

carried “so many salable dresses you couldn’t decide what to take home.”

In the back of the store, in the former bakery, Dobson’s sister-in-law, Helen Dobson, ran a gift shop selling silver, crystal, and other items that would appeal to Hutzel’s clientele. “Helen loved beautiful things,” recalls Dobson. She traveled all over Europe on buying trips. Dobson remembers that when a friend sent you a gift in the store’s lovely yellow and white box, you knew it would be something wonderful.

The building was also the home of the city’s first radio station. WPAG, 1050 AM, began broadcasting April 26, 1945 from a studio on the third floor. While selling ads for a Detroit radio station, Ted Baughn had seen that Ann Arbor needed its own radio station, so he joined forces with Paul Greene and his brother Arthur, the founder of Greene’s Cleaners. The partners had wanted to start the station in 1941, but the War Production Board refused to grant permission; the equipment

they had purchased was sent instead to North Africa. The call letters reflected the brothers’ initials—though because the station was upstairs from Hutzel’s, legendary WPAG sportscaster Bob Ufer liked to claim that they really stood for “women’s panties and girdles.”

WPAG’s programming was locally oriented and included news, music, sports, weather, and farm reports. There was no elevator, so employees got to work by climbing what they called “the stairway to heaven.” That was especially challenging for Dick Brunvand, news director from 1966 to 1968, who needed crutches to get around. “Those days I was much more mobile on my crutches than today and would climb those stairs two or three times a day,” he recalls. “I would strap a rather heavy recorder to a crutch so I could haul it up and down the stairs.”

The second floor, where the Binders once lived, was by then divided into offices—mainly dentists and doctors, but also a beauty salon. “I can still vividly recall the smell of the nasty chemicals that they used on women’s hair wafting down the hallway as you came up the stairs,” says Jim

Heddle, WPAG disc jockey and sportscaster from 1978 to 1980. “I think they had been in business a long time, because I never saw anyone under the age of eighty among their clientele. Us radio folks used to try to run down to Lucky Drugs to grab a quick snack or pop during the network news and were often late getting back into the studio because there always seemed to be a large elderly woman with a walker blocking our path, slowly trying to climb the stairs.”

Tom Monaghan bought the station in 1986 and moved it to Domino’s Farms, where he renamed it WPZA, for Radio Pizza. It’s now WTKA and specializes in sports talk. Part of the Cumulus chain, it’s based in the company’s office on Victor Way.

Selo and Shevel met in 1965 when both were social work students in the U-M master’s program. Shevel, who came from a retail background, opened Middle Earth in 1967, originally in a small space upstairs on E. Liberty. Selo went on to earn her PhD in 1976 and then worked for the Institute of Labor and Industrial Relations, studying law enforcement reactions to violence.

The couple had always traveled and had picked up a lot of great objects, so they added a gallery to Middle Earth. But students did not make good gallery customers, so when the funding for Selo’s project ran out in 1982, they opened Selo/Shevel on Main St., a few doors south of its pres-



BENTLEY HISTORICAL LIBRARY

ent location. Shevel continued managing Middle Earth, while Selo ran the gallery.

Selo, who had never studied business or even taken much interest in it, describes the opening as a "trial by fire," adding "I didn't know how hard it would be. If I had, I would have been scared." To choose merchandise, she says, "I saw what people were buying. I talked to customers, and I saw what worked ... Ann Arbor people were supportive of this kind of downtown."

When it's suggested that she had a great eye, Selo replies, "I was lucky in my taste." Her father studied medicine in Berlin, but when the Nazis wouldn't give him a license because he was Jewish, he emigrated to the United States and practiced medicine in Iowa. Her parents enjoyed going to estate sales on weekends, and she grew up in a home furnished with oriental rugs and Biedermeier furniture.

The store was originally devoted to imports that Selo and Shevel brought back from Asia, Africa, and the Middle East. "We'd look around and see what we liked," Selo says. "We always found great stuff. We had no system." They gradually added contemporary American crafts. Many stores specialize in one or the other, but Selo thinks they complemented each other and gave customers a wider range of choice.

In 1989, when Selo and Shevel bought the building at 301 S. Main from the Dibbles, it was in bad shape from many years of wear. The upstairs, Selo says, was "a total shambles." The roof needed replacing, and the windows on the second and third floor were about to fall out; on the first floor, windows had been blocked to give the dressing rooms privacy.

The Hutzel's sign, which projected from the building to be visible from both streets, didn't meet the requirements of the city's sign ordinance, but, with support from the Historic District Commission, the new owners were given a variance to keep it.

After more than twenty years on the corner, last fall Selo and Shevel sold their building to Reza Rahmani, an eye doctor with three locations in suburban Detroit, who has been buying Ann Arbor real estate in recent years. He did not respond to recent attempts to reach him, but in an earlier interview he said he was going to renovate the upstairs office space and put in an elevator but do nothing to change the exterior. Selo has faith, saying, "Something very good will come in after us. I'm not worried, because the buyer realizes the importance and significance of this building."

The store has to be empty by the end of March. As the closing date gets nearer, customers have been telling Selo about items they bought from her that they still cherish and how sorry they are that the store is closing.

Selo admits the feeling is mutual, and that she will miss her customers. So what's next for the couple? "It'll be a different life," she says. "Yes, we'll travel, but we've always traveled. I'd like to take classes, make soup, and sit by the fireplace and read."

—Grace Shackman



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HIEFTJE ERA

ANN ARBOR'S LONGEST-SERVING MAYOR LEAVES A CHANGED CITY. *by James Leonard*

"I did everything I set out to do," says mayor John Hieftje of his seven terms in office.

Sitting in city hall's south-facing first-floor conference room the day after the winter's heaviest snowfall, Ann Arbor's longest-serving mayor counts his accomplishments.

"Number one is the efficiency drive," he begins. "We went from 1,004 employees when I took office to 680 now. There was too much hiring in the nineties, and I told council at the first retreat after I became mayor that we have to shrink the workforce. I originally envisioned a 15 to 20 percent cut, though it turned out to be 30 percent, the last 10 percent because of the Great Recession.

"Everything that happened was colored by the recession. But even before that, the state cut revenue sharing, and money from outside dried up—then Pfizer left, and we lost 4.8 percent of our property tax revenue when the university bought the property. Every single year but last year we had to cut the budget while at the same time becoming more efficient. And we still do all the things we used to do, except we pick up leaves differently.

"One thing you have to realize: people at the city work really hard. Two people are doing the job that three used to do. It's what got us through the recession without a tax increase, when property tax revenues actually went down for the first time since the Great Depression.

"Number two is the environment," Hieftje continues. "Now we have the greenbelt, over 4,000 acres of land preserved from development around the city. We're also one of the most energy-efficient cities in the nation with LED

streetlights, solar panels on buildings, and single-stream recycling.

"Number three is infrastructure. We had a police station and two maintenance garages in really bad condition, and the county wanted their courts building back. Now we have the new Justice Center and the new Wheeler Center. We did the Broadway and the Stadium bridges, and we're currently doing the biggest project in the history of the city: replacing the West Plant at the wastewater treatment plant. And we built the underground [Library Lane] parking structure. We would never have Google and Barracuda and the other high-tech companies downtown without it.

"Number four is human services. Ann Arbor is one of only two cities in the state that still fund human services from the general fund. We maintained it throughout the recession, and now we're increasing it."

That's not the end of the mayor's list. "Look at safety services. Crime is down over the last ten years. Breaking-and-entering is at an all-time low. Look at downtown. When Borders left, it was doom and gloom, but now downtown is more vibrant than it has ever been, with more people living downtown than ever before."

To see how Hieftje's recounting of his accomplishments matched others' opinions of his tenure, we asked the four councilmembers who've announced they'd like his job: Steve Kunselman, Christopher Taylor, Sabra Briere, and Sally Hart Petersen. Kunselman, a tough Hieftje critic, declined to be interviewed.

For context we also asked a couple of former mayors: Lou Belcher and Ingrid Sheldon. Unlike the current mayor and the four declared candidates, who are

all Democrats, Belcher and Sheldon are Republicans. Between them, the former mayors and the would-be mayors describe a range of views on what the city's become during Hieftje's almost fourteen years in office—and a preview what it may be like under his successor.

The three interviewed candidates mostly agree with Hieftje's estimation of his performance. "The mayor led Ann Arbor through the Great Recession and the collapse of its biggest local industry," says Christopher Taylor, a three-term Hieftje ally. "If he had not led the reorganization of city government, we would have had a catastrophic service failure. Now the city is a leader in high-quality, efficient government service."

"John led the effort to cut fat and reduce costs, and he did it before the recession," says Sally Petersen, who in her first term has emerged as a swing vote between pro- and anti-Hieftje factions. "His leadership style helped a lot. He leads with quiet confidence and never gets riled or panicky—a good style for tough times."

"He's the person who singlehandedly spearheaded the greenbelt initiative," says Sabra Briere, the three-term councilmember with the most independent voting record. "In 2003 there was a lot of destruction of farmland and a lot of concern about urban sprawl. The greenbelt dealt with that, and it captured people's imagination."

It even captured the imagination of Lou Belcher. "I'm somewhat enamored of the Greenbelt," says Belcher, an activist Republican who served from 1978 through 1985. Belcher adds that Hieftje leaves the city "basically in good financial condition."

That's about all he'll grant the current mayor. "Basic city services have been cut back too much. And in fire and police services, the cuts are way too deep. We should have foot patrols downtown like we did in my day. And back then we worked hard to meet fire standards, but now we've lost track of national standards. We've really put our priorities in the wrong place."

Hieftje agrees that "we need a few more police downtown to address nuisance crimes" but says that the city has "enough firefighters." It's true, though, that Belcher would snort at some of his successor's priorities: in Hieftje's self-assessment, his biggest failure is the city's public art program. Council voted in 2007 to devote 1 percent of the cost of construction projects to public art but suspended the program last year and recently voted to return the remaining money to its original funds.

"It's my fault," Hieftje says. "We established an innovative way to fund art but didn't properly staff it and didn't set up the proper protocols. I looked away and left the art commission hanging out there by themselves."

But the vote to defund public art wasn't just a referendum on the program's management: it's also a sign of a split in city council. Like December's decision to cap funding for the Downtown Development Authority, it reflects the rise to power of a group of councilmembers whose attitudes toward Hieftje's brand of activist governance range from skeptical to downright hostile. Some blame the mayor for that, and say that he hasn't done enough to bring along a new generation of leaders.

The mayor himself downplays the division. "I've always said council divides according to issue. We were lucky council was so together through the Great Reces-



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THE HIEFTJE ERA

sion. Council has changed now, but we still have really good people to carry on good government."

"When I came on council there was a strong effort made to educate me on how government works," Taylor says. If some members continue to see themselves as outsiders, he suggests, the choice is theirs rather than the mayor's: "There is an element on council that takes positions based on emotions rather than analysis. They have all the facts and the professional advice, but they don't 'get' it."

"It was relatively easy for John," says Briere. "When I joined council, the strong voices were Chris Easthope, Marcia Higgins, Leigh Greden, and then Joan Lowenstein and Steve Rapundalo—all of whom were on the mayor's 'side,' so John could take on other projects. But John has done a lot to bring in new city councilmembers. Most recently he brought Sally Petersen in and Chuck Warpehoski, both first-term members."

Petersen agrees that Hieftje has reached out. Though she defeated one of his closest allies, Tony Derezinski, "the day after I won the primary, the mayor called me up, congratulated me, and invited me to lunch. And he kept it up: we meet about every six weeks to discuss council business."

"No new leaders on council? Look at how many of them want to be mayor," quips Ingrid Sheldon. "And council has always been divided. My last months as mayor were hell because council was so partisan."

"We're always going to have a divided council," Lou Belcher agrees. "Or, anyway, we should. We were ripe for a machine when we went to a one-party system. Council moved elections to November to insure only Democrats would win because of the liberal student vote. Now there is a machine: the appointment of like-thinking people to boards and committees—old cronies who've been in politics for thirty, forty years. [Former county commissioner and DDA board member] Leah Gunn fits the bill, but there are more."

Asked if he created a political machine, Hieftje replies, "I've never met over 75 percent of the people on the boards and commissions until they submit their applications." And though Gunn was his campaign treasurer, he notes that she was originally appointed to the DDA board by Sheldon. "She stayed on because she was the institutional memory, and she did a wonderful job."

Belcher says that under Hieftje, the mayor's job has changed because John has said "it's my full-time job." During his tenure, council more than doubled the mayor's salary; it currently pays \$42,436 a year.

"He very deliberately changed the job," Sheldon concurs. "I would not describe myself as a ceremonial mayor, but I did have another job, and I expected the city administrator to be the spokesperson for the city. But Roger Fraser [city administra-

tor from 2002 to 2011] was not the voice of the government. John Hieftje was."

Taylor defends Hieftje. "There is not and never has been a machine since I've been on council. The mayor articulates a positive and progressive vision and an overwhelming majority of people agree with him. That's not a machine; it's a democracy."

So does Petersen: "He was a strong leader with a clear vision, and he put people in place to realize his vision. That's what politics is all about."

Hieftje agrees the job of mayor has changed but argues that "the change started before me. Jerry Jernigan [1987-1991] was the last mayor with a full-time job. Liz Brater [1991-1993] didn't have an outside job. But what really changed was electronic mail. The volume of mail has really gone up, and I try to respond to everybody that writes. And people don't contact the city administrator. They contact the mayor."

Officially, Ann Arbor has what's been described as a "weak mayor-strong city administrator" system of government. But Hieftje, who teaches a course on municipal government at the U-M, says "our system has become a hybrid. The mayor takes the lead on more things—like I work with city staff on environmental and transit issues. If things needed to happen, I lobbied for them."

"John's legacy may be that many people can't think of the mayor without thinking of John in a negative or a positive way," says Briere. "The mayor's role is far more integrated into the city."

Hieftje believes his legacy is "efficient government—and I hope council maintains the same level of efficiency. What worries me is if revenues go up, there's a temptation to hire more people. I can see the city needs twenty or thirty more people over the next two or three years—a few more police, but what we really need are more people in project management and customer service."

Though he says he's not going to endorse a successor, Hieftje clearly favors two candidates. "Sabra Briere and Christopher Taylor would both make excellent mayors. They'd have different focuses, but they'd each do a fine job. I've always gotten along with Steve Kunselman, but he's never worked well with people who disagreed with him, which I think is essential in a mayor." He hedges on Petersen. "In comparison with the others, she has the least amount of experience—but I was elected after only one year on council."

Both Taylor and Petersen see the same difference between themselves and Kunselman. "Steve and I have different approaches to leadership," says Taylor. "I'm collaborative and listen. Steve's approach is more confrontational."

"Steve and I vote similarly, but our approach to governance is very different," Petersen says. "He's more combative. I'm more collaborative. We need someone more diplomatic as mayor."

As Briere sees the mayoral race, "Steve's campaign is very much against John, while Christopher is running to continue John's legacy. But they're both running because of John."

"I'm not running because of John. I don't have a desire to continue his legacy. I'm running because Ann Arbor deserves a mayor who is pragmatic and works for the citizens, wherever they live."

"Sabra and Chris are the status quo candidates," says Petersen. "Kunselman is for the status quo of an earlier era. I'm not for the status quo. The city needs to

grow its private sector, not only downtown but also in the business corridors. I have a vision of ambitious growth through reasonable development."

The one gaping hole in Hieftje's list of accomplishments is a new train station. It's a gap he figures will be filled after he leaves office.

"Everybody [on council] voted to keep the train station [study] going," he notes.

But it's by no means certain that his successor will be as devoted to rail travel as Hieftje is. Of the four declared mayoral candidates, only Christopher Taylor and Sally Petersen unequivocally favor a new station. Steve Kunselman has said he sees no urgent need to replace the existing one, and Sabra Briere is withholding judgment—"I can wait," she says.

"There won't be a new train station without public support through a public vote," Briere adds. "So, after the environmental survey and vote of the public, we will know whether a new train station will be built."

Though Hieftje won't have his full-time mayor job after November, he's keeping his part-time gig at the university. "I like teaching, but I may also do something with the environment. I'm not retiring. I'm going to be sixty-three [this year], and I wanted to start something new before I turned sixty-five."

The weekend after we spoke, the mayor was heading to his cabin on Lake Superior. In the next few years, he emails, "I hope to spend 6-8 weeks hiking and living deep in the mountains of the Western U.S. or Canada, somewhere with wolves and grizzly bears."

"I'm never happier than when I'm in the middle of nowhere," he says with a smile. "Where I'm going this weekend isn't that far, though I'll have to snowshoe in a quarter mile."

"I've got a bit of a split personality. I feel more alive in the wilderness than anywhere—but I really enjoy being mayor." ■

"John's legacy may be that many people can't think of the mayor without thinking of John in a negative or a positive way," Sabra Briere says. "The mayor's role is far more integrated into the city."



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FATHER TEQUILA

by Jeremy Seaver

I know with spring approaching there are probably a lot of you re-committing yourselves to that diet, hoping to fit into a new bathing suit or at least your summer clothes from last year. I wish you poor souls the best of luck. Me, I'd rather be happy. Personally I think the only time to eat diet food is while you're waiting for the steak to cool. As far as what tequila to pair with that steak? There is almost no way to go wrong. Steak is strong-

GARLIC & HERB RUB

by Tim Seaver

I am something of a purist when it comes to steak. I never have liked a steak sauce, and it's one of the very few foods I don't add hot sauce to. A good garlic and herb rub is another story. Take your favorite rub and add ground chipotle or ground ancho chile. Just a touch of either will add another dimension to your rub without adding overpowering heat.

Rick Bayliss has a good starter rub recipe: 4 cloves garlic finely chopped, ½ cup ancho chile powder, 4 tsp brown sugar, 1 tsp dried oregano, ½ tsp cumin, 4 tsp black pepper and 5 tsp salt. Mix all together and rub on 2 tbsp per pound of steak. Enjoy!

A LOADED POTATO

by Jessie Seaver

Nothing goes better with steak than a loaded baked potato. Wrap the potato of your choice in foil and toss it in a 350° oven until it's fork-tender. The creative part comes with the toppings!

To make your own compound butter, take 1 stick unsalted butter at room temperature and add your favorite seasonings. My favorite combination is ½ tsp horseradish, 1 tsp fresh dill, ¼ tsp salt, and a few grinds fresh black pepper. Combine with a spatula, drop spoonfuls of the butter onto plastic wrap, roll tightly and refrigerate overnight.

For your homemade bacon bits, marinate the bacon overnight in TIOS #4 salsa. To cook, line a baking sheet with foil, place a cooling rack on top and lay the bacon strips flat. Bake at 350° for 20-30 minutes, flipping once. The bacon gets crispy but not greasy, and cleanup is quick and easy.



ly flavored meat that will stand up to the strong flavors of tequila. I've decided to recommend Dos Lunas Reposado. It is a great tequila that has recently returned to the state of Michigan. Light caramel and oak flavors up front, notes of blackberry, and a nice earthy quality on the finish. This is a wonderful tequila to enjoy with any cut of meat

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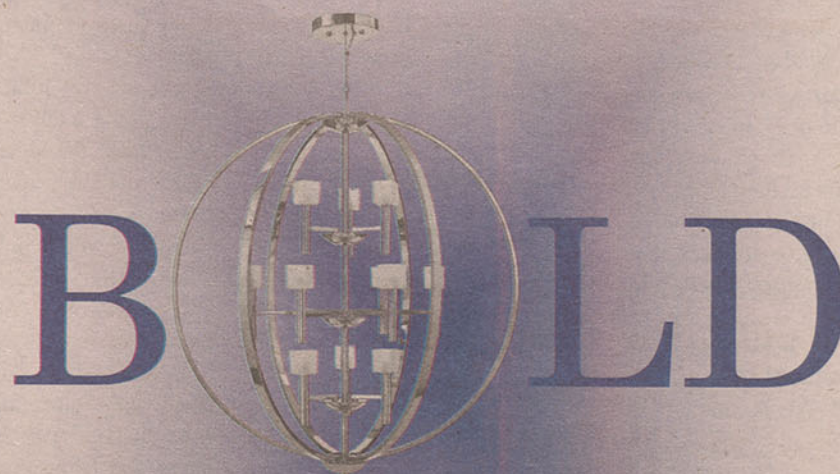


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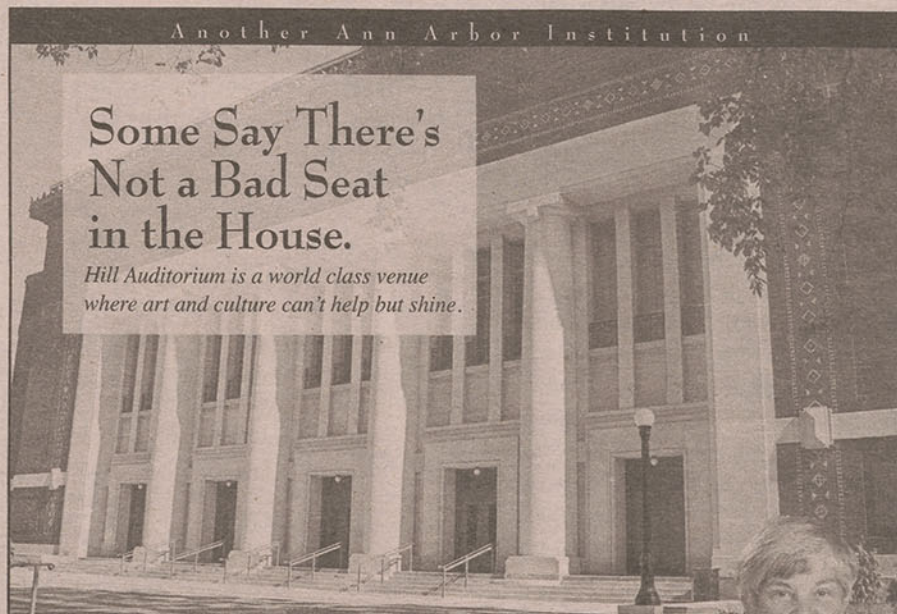
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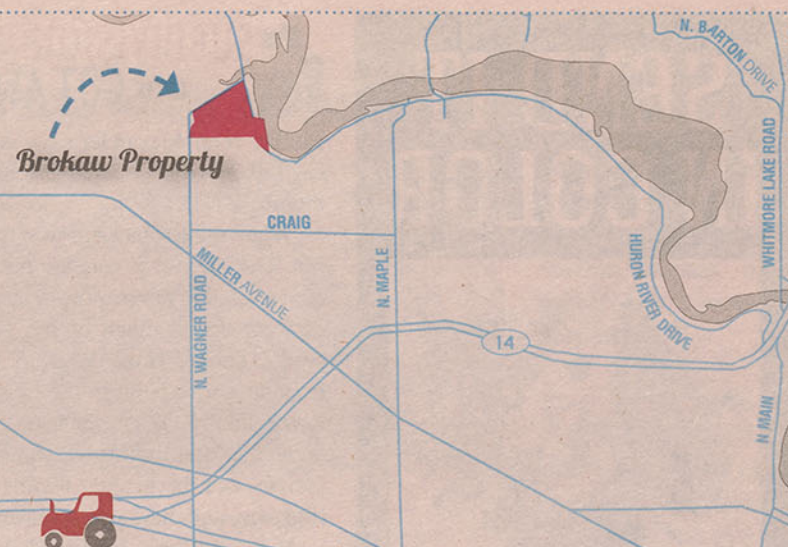
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the SUBDIVISION that GOT AWAY

Don and Earldine Brokaw's twenty-five riverfront acres seemed destined for development. Here's how the land—and half a million dollars—fell into the city's lap.



by David Swain

The situation was going downhill rapidly," Dan Ezekiel remembers. It was the spring of 2009, and the Forsythe Middle School science teacher had gone out to 3013 W. Huron River Dr. to meet the property's owner, Don Brokaw. Ezekiel was a member of the city's greenbelt committee, and Brokaw's best friend, John Alexander, had set up the meeting to discuss a possible conservation easement on the land. With him were Dave Szczygiel, head of the public schools' outdoor education program, and Ginny Trocchio, from the city's acquisitions department.

"Unbeknownst to any of us, Mr. Brokaw's mental condition had deteriorated since the appointment had been set up," Ezekiel recalls. Brokaw, then in his late eighties, suffered from Alzheimer's disease. "We could tell immediately that he was in no mental condition to discuss legal issues.

"Abandoning any hope of acquiring a conservation easement, we just started chatting with him about what a beautiful piece of property it was," Ezekiel remembers. "However, he got the idea maybe we were scammers trying to bilk him out of his land."

"He said, 'I think I better go get my gun,'" Szczygiel recalls. "Dan thought that was a good time to depart. I said, 'Dan, don't you want to see if he can remember where his gun is?'"

Before Brokaw had a chance to test his memory, Ezekiel spotted John Alexander's name and phone number written by the telephone. "I asked Mr. Brokaw if John was his friend, and Mr. Brokaw allowed that he was," he recalls. "I said that John was my friend, too. I asked if I could call John, so that John could vouch for us.

"Luckily, John was home and calmed Mr. Brokaw down over the phone. John told Mr. Brokaw to sit tight and later on he would come over to take him for a haircut. We beat a hasty retreat."

Joseph Donald Brokaw was born in 1919. His parents, Roscoe and Eleanor, had a dairy farm on Geddes called The Meadows. The property caught the eye of wealthy industrialist Harry Boyd "H.B." Earhart and his wife, Carrie. They bought the place and in 1936 built their mansion there. Concordia Uni-

versity owns it now, and built its campus on the rest of the property.

The Brokaws moved west to another farm on the Huron River. That, too, was later developed. The senior Brokaws' last residence was 615 Riverview, near what is now Gallup Park.

Don Brokaw graduated from University High School in 1938. Among the fifty-one seniors that year were future architect David Osler and Osler's future wife, Connie Lorch. Osler's parents lived on what is now Glazier Way (see Question Corner, p. 18), not far from the Brokaws. David recalls going swimming with Don almost

John Alexander is the fifth generation of his family to farm land in Webster Township that his great-great-grandfather bought in 1826. "My parents were pretty good friends" with the Brokaws, Alexander recalls.

"When they built their house, my dad helped dig the basement. As time went on, Don would ride with me in the combine. And anybody who rides in a combine with you, you learn a lot about them.

"Don was very handy, very skilled at so many different things. And I used him as a resource as well, as he would come out and help me with things, especially elec-

trical work."

avid seeker of esoteric knowledge. Don loved the outdoors. His niece Bonnie Calhoun and nephew Gary Brokaw both recall that birds and squirrels would come into the house to get food and that Don could go outside and call birds down from the trees.

Leo and Dianna Fox first met Earldine at Soybean Cellars in the early 1970s. In 1979, when they started Arbor Farms, Earldine was a regular customer. Don would wait outside in their little Renault while she bought staples like honey and whole wheat flour. Dianna remembers Earldine as very conservative but open-minded, and very interested in health and nutrition.

Sue and Carl Van Appledorn live on Parkridge behind the Brokaw property. Sue recalls that Don was always out on his land and was extremely protective of it. A small creek runs through the property, and one day Don discovered a couple of kids playing there, building a dam. He went to their parents to read them the riot act. On other occasions, Don was known to fire a warning shot from his ever-present shotgun to get his point across.

The Brokaws were incredibly frugal. In the summer, they kept a large garden. In the winter, they heated with wood, which Don cut on the property. During the visit from Ezekiel's group, there was one light bulb in the house, and it was on a dimmer so that it gave off about as much light as a

Don Brokaw "said, 'I think I better go get my gun,' "
Dave Szczygiel recalls. "Dan thought that was a good time to depart. I said, 'Dan, don't you want to see if he can remember where his gun is?'"

every day during the summer at the millpond on Fleming Creek, now Parker Mill Park.

After graduation, Don attended Parks College of Aeronautical Technology in East St. Louis, Illinois. In World War II, he served as a fighter mechanic in England. As a mechanic, Don was extremely adept. As a soldier, his independent streak got him in trouble.

According to John Alexander, Don "never registered in [with the military] when he got there ... So they didn't know he was there. This went on for months. He got a bicycle and would ride around the countryside.

"That's Don. He made his [own] rule. They wanted him to sign in. 'Why do I have to sign in? I'm already here.'"

Don married Earldine DePlonty on Christmas Eve 1947. The newlyweds first lived with Don's parents but soon bought a house in Burns Park. Then, in 1952, the couple bought twenty acres on Huron River Dr. from Louis and Julia Wallraff for \$16,800. In 1958, they bought another five acres from Detroit Edison for \$2,500. Sometime in the mid '50s, they built what was supposed to be Don's workshop. They would live there for the rest of their lives.

trical work."

Don also did some refrigeration work and worked in his brother Roscoe's machine shop. He wasn't in the least bit lazy, but he had his own way of doing things, and he didn't take kindly to direct supervision.

Earldine worked for the phone company. She believed that people had tremendous untapped potential, and she was an



Dave Szczygiel and Dan Ezekiel at the Brokaw property on Huron River Dr.

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the SUBDIVISION that GOT AWAY

candle. John Alexander says their electrical bill was only three or four dollars a month.

When the Brokaws moved to 3013 Huron River Drive, it was the middle of the country, but in the ensuing years new houses went up on much of the surrounding land. The neglected Wallraff farmhouse became a sore point in the neighborhood. It was finally vacated in 1963 and burned down that same night. The timing was suspicious, but the general feeling was good riddance, and there was no investigation.

Naturally, the Brokaws' twenty-five acres also drew attention from developers. A document Earldine compiled in 1999 suggests that initially they weren't averse to the idea. But they didn't trust the would-be buyers:

We know that developers have been to the title co. searching for ways—discrepancies in our deed—any way to cheat us! One of them said repeatedly, "Maybe you don't own it."—We are aware that our deed was written, at the time we purchased the property, in a way that is not very clear. That applies to part of our land—5 acres of the most valuable part of our land—high on a hill overlooking the entire bend of the Huron River.

We talked with a man at the title co. a few years ago who said that in his opinion there should be no problem. He is no longer employed there. I talked with someone else recently, who seemed reluctant to talk with us, probably because she has been talking with developers and does not want to have problems with them and wants to stay out of it.

We believe that developers have a monopoly or consortium—highly inappropriate! They do not deviate from what they say—almost verbatim—like playing a record over and over.

They also refuse to bid on property, insisting they can not guess what it is worth until they test! Perking, etc? They say it would take months—5 to 9 months—some leave the time open—machinery would be brought in to dig deep holes—tree roots would be damaged—maybe trees destroyed! We would have to sign agreement

permitting them to do this. Perking should be no problem. Our land is very sandy, an abundance of gravel stones. Enough sand should be supplied when basements are excavated.

Homes have been built all around us. Land has been completely developed all around us in recent years—with no apparent problem!

If we permit them to "test" our land, we would give away every last protection that we have. They could tell us whatever they choose to tell us about our property and we would be left with their "findings" as "fact," "irrefutable proof"! Which would then be documented and filed at township office and court house, and wherever such records are filed, probably title co. also!

They do not bother to deny any of this, when I tell them I am aware of what they are doing. They continue to insist on testing.

Several years ago we drove for miles around attempting to get a surveyor to survey our property. Not even one of them would even talk with us! That told us very clearly what is going on.

John Alexander says the confusion about their title related to the parcel they bought from the electric company. "The fire department thought that it was still public land, because it was never completely recorded. So the fire department was talking about building a station out there. At that point, Don had to go in and say that he owned it. Prior to that, they didn't know he owned it. They had to come to an agreement on just how they were going to take care of some of the taxes.

"He wasn't going to make a big thing of it as long as there wasn't any fuss. That's Don. He wasn't going to make a thing of it, until he needed to."

Earldine died on April 18, 2003. The next year, Don started a foundation "to receive and administer funds for operating a park for the use of the general public." He transferred both the twenty-five acres and almost half a million dollars stashed in various bank accounts to the foundation. ("Don was always very clever with money," Dave Osler says.)

"As time went on, he knew that he was slipping, as many people do, and it was

After graduating from University High School, Don attended Parks College of Aeronautical Technology in East St. Louis and served as a fighter mechanic in Britain during WWII—once the Army realized he was there. Earldine worked for Michigan Bell, helping businesses set up their phone systems.



COURTESY BROKAW FAMILY



COURTESY BROKAW FAMILY

Earldine was a seeker after esoteric knowledge.

troublesome to him," John Alexander recalls. When Don began wandering off his property, Alexander had him carry a note with Alexander's phone number on it. "I got a couple of calls. Once, the last time, he had his gun. The deputy [who called] said, 'He could have ended up being shot.'"

At that point, Brokaw's attorney, Don McHenry, asked Alexander to take away Don's guns. He did, but "Don knew I had his guns, and that didn't go over well with him." Eventually, Don had to move to a nursing home, and the hard feelings faded: "As he got older he would just smile when he saw me." Don died on May 27, 2010.

By then, McHenry had also passed away and William Drollinger had taken over as the foundation's lawyer. Drollinger approached the Ann Arbor schools to see if they wanted to take on the property. The school system didn't, but Szczygiel was interested—he saw it as a permanent site for the field trips he leads. He met with Drollinger, and expected to meet again when the attorney returned from a trip to Europe.

But Drollinger died while traveling. With no living trustees or representative, the foundation slipped into legal limbo. Property taxes went unpaid, and eventually Michigan attorney general Bill Schuette's office got involved.

"Our office did its best to follow-up any leads so that the property could be distributed consistent with the foundation's purpose and its dissolution clause," emails Schuette's communications director, Joy Yearout. Unaware of Szczygiel's contacts with the foundation, the attorney general settled on the only party he knew was interested: the city of Ann Arbor.

After a brief court hearing in October, judge Tim Connors granted the property to the city, along with the balance in the foundation's \$489,000 investment account after paying back taxes and legal fees. The city still has to remove the buildings and other material on the site before it can become a park or nature area, but with the Brokaws' "endowment," that should be no problem.

Don Brokaw often told John Alexander how he wanted to die. "He would go out to his woods, sit with his back to a tree ..., know it's time, and just pass away. Sadly, that's not the way he went. But I do believe that he's there, in spirit."

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A Cappella Ascending

The giddy world of campus harmony

by Patrick Dunn

When you walk into a U-M a cappella event, the audience's deafening cheers and raucous cries of adoration might lead you to expect a rock god on stage. But the performers are all U-M students, and the performances are characterized more by a sense of wild, unpredictable fun than by strutting egos.

The singers, typically wearing color-coordinated outfits, grin widely as they harmonize their way through a wide variety of material. At last fall's MACFest, fifteen groups offered unaccompanied renditions of folk tunes (the Civil Wars' "Barton Hollow"), pop hits (Lorde's "Royals"), a traditional Hebrew song ("Erev Shel Shoshanim"), and the jazzy classic "Feeling Good" with interludes in Mandarin Chinese. Beyond the elaborate multi-part vocals a cappella music is known for, most arrangements also rely on at least one performer for propulsive vocal percussion sounds, known as "beat-boxing." There's a giddy sense of enthusiasm, and a fierce sense of mutual support. Vocalists rush around nervously before performances and cheer their fellow groups afterwards. "We become each other's audience and root each other on," says Sarah Ikenberry, member of a group called the Harmonettes.



"I was backstage [at MACFest]

before every group went on, giving them cues, and everybody was just so complimentary and so excited. Groups that were passing would high-five each other and wish them to 'break a leg.'"

Thing get a little more competitive this time of year, when the annual International Championship of Collegiate A Cappella (ICCA) comes around. U-M hosted a round of this year's ICCA Great Lakes quarterfinals on February 15, and the regional semifinal will be held at Rackham Auditorium on March 15. Ikenberry says most of U-M's groups aspire to a big win at the ICCA, and "everyone wants a Michigan group to make it to the final."

Michigan's a cappella community is one of the largest in the country—with sixteen groups, it tops even legendary a cappella schools like Yale (fifteen) and Cornell (twelve). The Michigan A Cap-



PHOTOS COURTESY MACC

pella Council (MACC) includes all-male, all-female, coed, Jewish, Christian, and South Asian ensembles. "It's not the same as your typical New

England a cappella group," says Nina Peluso, a member and the business manager of a group called Amazin' Blue. "A lot of people love to sing, but this gives people an opportunity to sing and do something that reflects their interests."

Ikenberry, who is also MACC's vice president, attributes a cappella's surge in popularity over the last decade to its visibility in entertainment like TV's *Glee* or the 2012 film *Pitch Perfect*. "I think for a long time choir and singing were considered dorky things for people to do, so only the people that were serious about it were the ones that wanted to try out," Ikenberry says. "But I think it's becoming more of a cool thing. Now it's considered OK to audition for these groups."

In fact, Michigan's a cappella groups can be even more selective than the university itself. Most groups interviewed for

Clockwise from above: the "Asian interest" Kopitonez mix in bits in Mandarin. The Harmonettes spun off from the larger U-M Women's Glee Club, the Friars from the Men's Glee Club. The Sirens (top, in green) were founded by singers who didn't make it into existing groups, but now they, too, are overwhelmed with applicants: Last fall, eighty women auditioned for just three openings.

this story report significant year-to-year increases recently in the number of people auditioning during MACC's fall AcaRush. Peluso says 100 tried out for Amazin' Blue in 2012 and 140 last fall, while Ikenberry says the Harmonettes jumped from about eighty hopefuls to 100. Yet groups usually have fewer than five openings per year.

Hannah Nathans found herself a victim of that harsh reality when she arrived at U-M in 2010. Fresh off the Pioneer High School Bel Canto and A Cappella choirs, she auditioned for a few a cappella groups at U-M

but didn't get in. So she and some friends decided to do the next best thing: start their own group. The Sirens were accepted into MACC last winter and held their first official auditions last fall—at which point Nathans found herself in the difficult position of having to choose just three new members from a pool of eighty hopefuls.

"We really weren't prepared for the amount of auditions," she says. "It's kind of sad in a way, because I didn't want it to feel like this exclusive thing that I felt when I was auditioning."

"I think it's becoming more of a cool thing," says Michigan A Cappella Council vice president Sarah Ikenberry. At MACC's AcaRush last fall, 100 women auditioned for her group, the Harmonettes, while 140 men tried out for Amazin' Blue.

A cappella has come a long way since 1955, when Michigan's first group, the Friars, spun out from the larger U-M Men's Glee Club. Their early repertoire was more nostalgic than today's pop re-creations, including twenties jazz standards like "Flamin' Mamie" and "Toot Toot Tootsie." But even then, the Friars and their audience had a sense of humor: in the group's recording of the 1927 jazz tune "Take Your Finger Out of Your Mouth," the audience can be heard howling with laughter at the song's cheeky lyrics.

It took until 1979 for the Harmonettes to spin out of the Women's Glee Club as the university's first all-female a cappella group. These days, the options for an a cappella hopeful cater to more than just gender difference—although the "special interest" groups can be rather loosely defined. Kellie Rong is director of the Kopitonez, an "Asian interest" group. Rong says that although the Kopitonez are primarily Asian American, the group is open to anyone enthusiastic about Asian culture. "We're definitely not exclusive," Rong says. "We also have two Caucasian girls and a couple of Hispanic guys, so we're decently diverse. Being 'Asian interest' is just to promote our culture as a whole."

Although six U-M groups, including Amazin' Blue and the Harmonettes, vied for a finalist spot in this year's ICCA, the competition is marked by good sportsmanship. The G-Men have placed first in the regional quarterfinals two years running, but at U-M events, the group's howls of support for fellow groups are louder than anyone's. G-Men president Apoorv Dhir says the "intense, hostile rivalry" between groups in *Pitch Perfect* couldn't be further from the truth. "It made me really uncomfortable, because at least at Michigan there's nothing like that," Dhir says. "We're all really supportive of each other."

"We all compete at ICCAs and regardless of the outcome, nothing changes. We're all still friends, and we're all really happy for each other."

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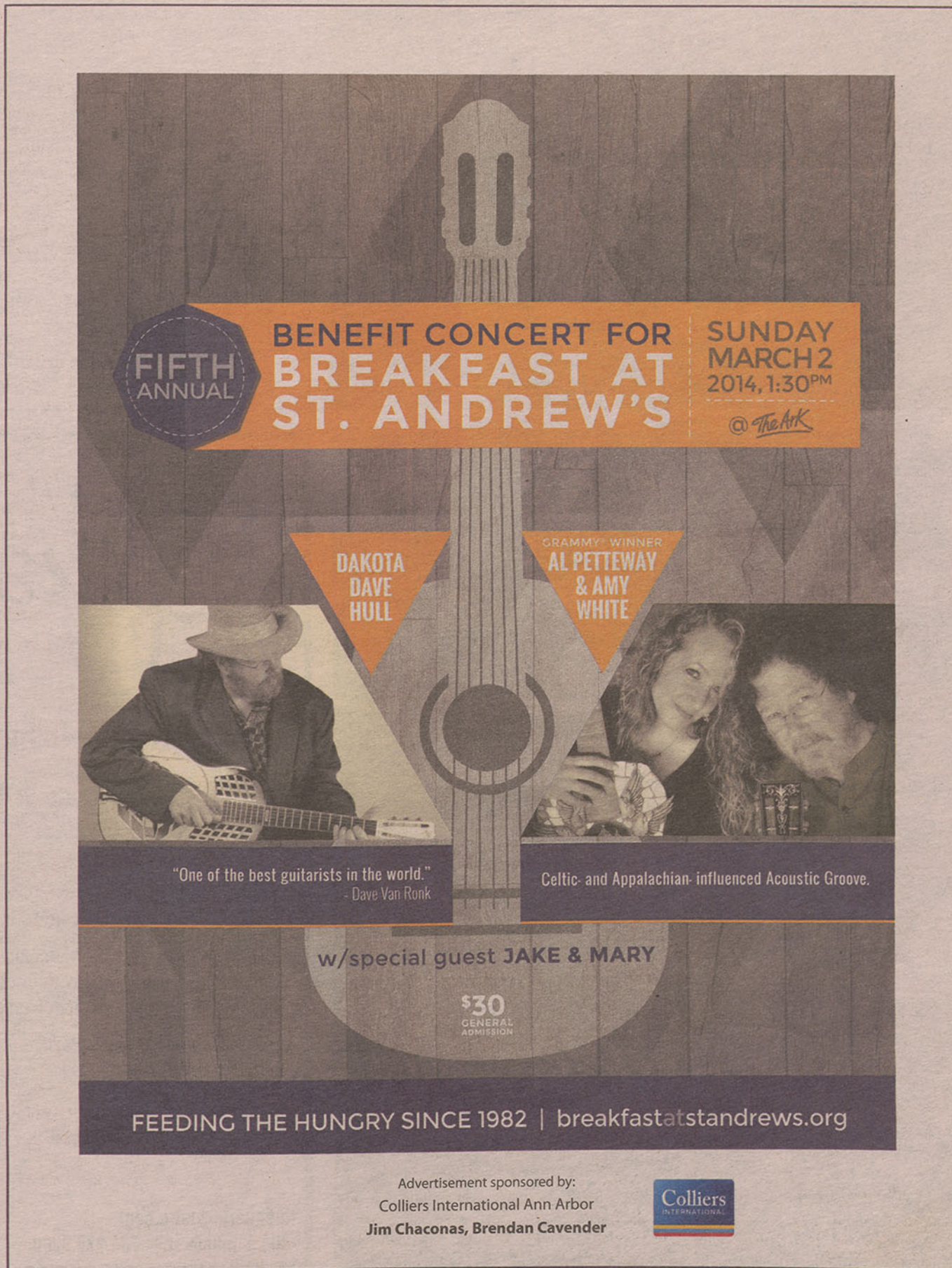
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Restaurant Reviews

Zola Bistro

A new friend

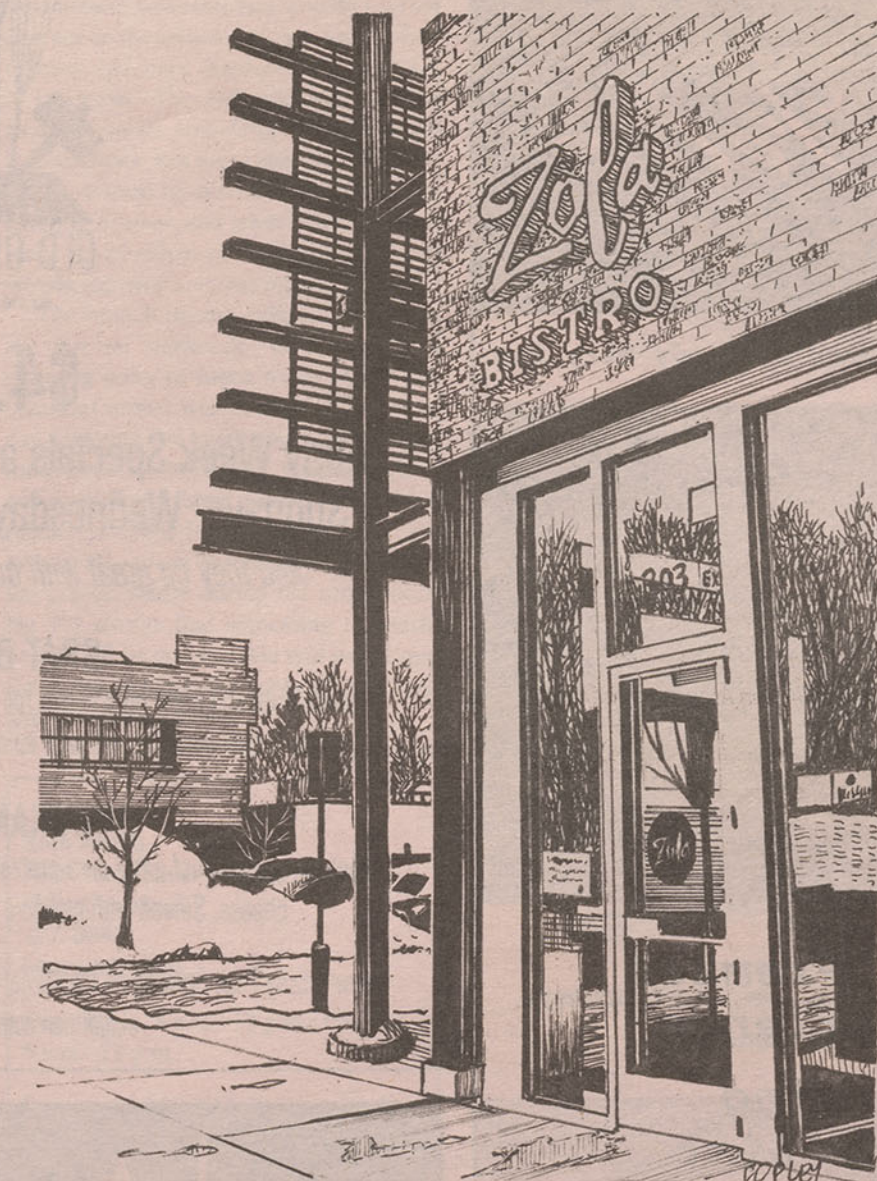
The reasons I choose a particular restaurant can change with time—even from day to day—but often I find a favorite dish or table or server that thrills and comforts and brings me back over and over to the same seat. When I've been in the mood for dependable, I often head downtown to the warm, stylish bar at Café Zola. I'll perch at the curved end of the smooth concrete counter, snug beneath the low ceiling and the plush velvet entrance curtain hugging my back. If I order a martini, the bartender will pour it from an individual shaker, generous enough to top off my glass again once I've sipped most of the cocktail. The antipasto platter or a huge bowl of mussels always promises a bargain, and grilled octopus—a personal favorite—is a regular special.

Now Zola has a new sister—all grown up and cosmopolitan—on Washtenaw Avenue in the new Arbor Hills Crossing shopping center. Named Zola Bistro, she shares her older sibling's sophisticated design sensibility. Without downtown's warm brick walls and divided space, though, the new place—a large open room of glass, steel, concrete, and marble with an undulating scrap wood wall that functions as sculpture—feels more dramatically austere. Owners Hediye Batu and Alan Zakalik have already installed ceiling baffles to address initial complaints about noise levels generated by all those hard surfaces. Our table of five had no trouble conversing on a busy Friday night.

Those generous cocktails have made the trip over to the bistro, and both restaurants now share the same extensive menus for brunch and dinner. Although the mussels remain on the dinner menu, the antipasto platter has been split in three (vegetable, cheese, or meat), and the octopus has attained a permanent spot—at a heftier price for a smaller portion.

The standardization of Café Zola's menus and specials means Zola Bistro will likely please downtown regulars who wander out Washtenaw or who drive over from their suburban homes. (Unfortunately, parking in Arbor Hills' undersized, awkward lot isn't much better than parking downtown.) The long dinner menu is now heavy on snacks, salads, and small plates, with plenty of pastas and main courses too; specials usually add to the dilemma of choosing. Nonetheless, our table was able to sample a good portion of what the kitchen offers.

Beginning with small plates, pepadew peppers—small, round, sweetened pickled chiles stuffed with lamb merguez sausage and strewn with pine nuts—were a wonderful union of sugar, vinegar, and spice. The shrimp taco—piled with mango, guacamole, and cilantro sauce—was tasty, as were the



The standardization of Café Zola's menus and specials means Zola Bistro will likely please downtown regulars who wander out Washtenaw or who drive over from their suburban homes. (Unfortunately, parking in Arbor Hills' undersized, awkward lot isn't much better than parking downtown.)

Vietnamese-style chicken wings, though I would have enjoyed them more if the sauce had actually penetrated the flesh. Kale salad with sharp cheddar and bacon toffee—think bacon glazed brittle style—was delicious, and a warm butternut squash salad with goat cheese, pistachios, pancetta, and bitter greens would have been if the kitchen had roasted the highlighted vegetable long enough.

Entrées that evening were nearly universally successful. One friend, armed with a bit of past experience, insisted on ordering the brick-roasted chicken; flattened for uniform cooking, the half bird was incredibly succulent and moist. Another rewarded herself with marinated lamb chops, grilled a perfect medium rare and partnered with raisin- and almond-flecked spinach. Two other companions sampled the different dimensions of beef—one as a special filet, beautifully cooked and generously sauced with a red wine reduction, the other in a braised short

rib dish drizzled with horseradish cream, a Brussels sprout-mushroom-bacon medley on the side. Not feeling so carnivorous, I ordered the *cavolo nero*—farfalle pasta with kale pesto, roasted cherry tomatoes, and pine nuts. Gnawing delicately on her lamb chop, my friend peered down at my bowl and said, "I think you lost out at this dinner." But once I stirred in some salt and pepper—and then did so again—I enjoyed the simple hominess of the dish.

One might have thought dessert impossible at that point, but we forged on, trying a Nutella-banana crepe and a chocolate brioche pudding. Both were satisfactory, if not outstanding.

Our waitress, though, was outstanding, patient as we chatted and meandered through the menu, trying to narrow our choices. She was knowledgeable and friendly without being intrusive. She brought us wine samples while we debated the bottles and appeared magically when needed.



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Restaurant Reviews

The bartender who served my husband and me one slow weeknight demonstrated the same qualities, warmly inviting us to settle in against the cold blizzard outside. That second night we had an impressive version—a special appetizer—of an old dish, oysters Rockefeller; I hope it remains wondrous as it wends its way to Zola Bistro's permanent list. The oysters were briny and clean tasting, with a hint of licorice, a slight glaze of spinach and parmesan enhancing rather than smothering the bivalve's natural flavor. The plate of four, shared with my husband, wasn't sufficient; I wished for a dozen of my own. But I resisted, and we moved on to other dishes. I chose *shakshuka*, a north African dish popularized in Israel, which features an egg poached in a sauce of peppers, onions, and tomatoes; I found Zola's version dull and difficult to eat in its cramped casserole. My husband fared better with another small plate—the butcher's choice—featuring a six-ounce hanger steak on a bed of spinach splashed with *chimichurri* (parsley-garlic) sauce. We ordered *pommes frites* sprinkled with parmesan and rosemary to round out our dinner, and—as most people do when confronted with thin, crispy fries—we devoured them. A tangy lemon ice cream parfait topped off our light dinner and prepared us to reenter the icy cold night.

After so much good food and knowing Café Zola's long-ago start with breakfast crepes and waffles, I found our one breakfast at the Bistro a trifle disappointing—and at \$64 for three, plus tip, fairly expensive. (Actually, I find the pricing of all Zola's menus—brunch, dinner, wine, and cocktail—puzzling; many items seem significantly overpriced, others a surprising bargain, with only a few at

the Goldilocks just-right figure.) Service again was wonderful, but my buckwheat crepe with mushroom filling was slight and not all that flavorful. Pouring salt on my husband's salmon hash couldn't fix its absence in the initial cooking. My mother enjoyed her crab Benedict, but I found it lackluster. The best dish by far—as beautiful in its simplicity as the oysters Rockefeller—was the classic Belgian waffle we ordered for the table. With a crispy exterior, a moist and tender center, and a tangy flavor enhanced by the maple syrup we poured over it, it was marvelous.

The brunch menu—offered every day, not just on weekends—also includes a dizzying array of lunch items. While the breakfast crowd was decent on the Monday morning we were there, the dining room filled for lunch later, making it obvious many have found reasons to become regulars at Zola Bistro. I'm not sure I'll ever be able to get oysters Rockefeller and the classic waffle during the same meal, but I'll always find something to relish, certain I'll be comfortable and well cared for at this neighborhood branch of a reliable downtown friend.

—Lee Lawrence

Zola Bistro
3030 Washtenaw Avenue, (Arbor Hills Crossing)
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bistrozola.com

Sun.–Thurs. 8 a.m.–10 p.m., Fri.–Sat. 8 a.m.–11 p.m.

Breakfast \$7.75–\$15.95, brunch salads \$6.95–\$14.95, sandwiches and burgers \$8.50–\$13.95

Dinner, snacks, appetizers, and salads \$1–\$14, pastas and entrées \$12–\$34


 Handicap accessible

table talk

The only restaurant besides Zingerman's to get its own number in Huffington Post's "Nine Reasons to Eat in Ann Arbor" was **Vellum**, a collaboration between John Roumanis (Mediterraneo and Carlyle Grill) and his twenty-five-year-old son, Peter, who trained at Paris's Taillevent and New York's Del Posto.

Since its ambitious and extravagant opening last winter, Vellum has quietly moved closer to the culinary mainstream. One local observer of the restaurant scene called the new menu "dumbed down"—the sous vide poached egg, for instance, is gone, as is celebrity sommelier Ric Jewell. Vellum has added "Grill" to its title, and the entrees are recognizable and described simply: "New York strip," "pork ribs." Peter now greets customers in a suit rather than kitchen whites, and Jeffrey Sartor is listed as the chef.

Peter points out that the Huffington Post rave came after the changes—for in-

stance, the pecan-crusted chicken breast that illustrated the write-up is a recent menu addition. And he is even prouder of a January feature article about Vellum in the trade magazine *Restaurant Hospitality*. In it, he talks thoughtfully about finding the balance between being "a modern American restaurant of the moment" and "appeas[ing] the Midwestern palate."

Dismissing the talk downtown that his dad fired him from the kitchen—"half the time I'm in the kitchen developing new dishes"—he describes the changes as an inevitable evolution: "With all art there needs to be commerce, and it needs to be viable. We've reined it in a little bit, but from Day One me and my father have seen eye to eye. He sees the brutal facts, and I understand technical aspects of food and where it's going."

—Sally Mitani

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times readers tour ireland, without leaving ann arbor!

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Baked fresh at Zingerman's Bakehouse March 1-17! Made from limited quantities of special wholemeal flour that has been shipped directly from Walton's Mill in County Cork, Ireland, and Macroom Oats. Ask for a sample of this very special bread at Zingerman's Bakehouse and Deli right away—it's available for a limited time only!

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Brown Bread Gelato

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Tuesday, Mar. 18 • 7pm • \$60/person
The Roadhouse welcomes back long-time Roadie Caitlin Doyle, just returned from spending three months at the Ballymaloe Cookery School in Shanagarry in East Cork, Ireland. Caitlin will join Chef Alex in the kitchen to prepare an authentic Irish meal and share stories of her time abroad. Reserve at www.zingermanscommunity.com



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Marketplace Changes

by Sally Mitani

Bookstore Ecology

What does it mean that Nicola's is for sale?

"I don't know what prompted this media interest," says Nicola Rooney about the news that her eponymous Nicola's Books is for sale. For a year she has been quietly trying to find a buyer by "talking to book people" and was unhappy that *Publishers Weekly* outed her in late January before she could tell her employees.

This is no fire sale. She wouldn't say what her asking price is, except that "there are a lot of zeros" and that it has nothing to do with the opening of two smaller indies (Literati and Bookbound) last year. "There's plenty of room for everybody. This is a very 'quartered' town," she says, and it now has, more or less, a bookstore for each quadrant—Nicola's in Westgate, Bookbound in the north-side Courtyard Shops, Literati downtown, and Barnes & Noble on Washtenaw.

"I need to make sure that if I have to be pulled away, that there's someone here in charge," Rooney says. "I'm trying to plan for a secure future for the store and make sure it doesn't dwindle for lack of my attention."

The *Publishers Weekly* announcement generated local headlines, and Rooney's surprised at how many people have gotten hold of the wrong end of the stick.

"I am not closing the store. That is the opposite of what I'm doing. What the *Ann Arbor News* wrote was accurate, but people misread it. It's quite annoying." Rooney just wants more flexibility to be with her ninety-four-year-old mother in England. "I need to make sure that if I have to be pulled away, that there's someone here in charge. I'm trying to plan for a secure future for the store and make sure it doesn't dwindle for lack of my attention."

Neither is she planning on moving to England. She and her husband, Charles, emigrated from England to Sarnia, Ontario, in 1982, where she worked as a chemical engineer. He now owns twenty-seven physical therapy clinics in the Detroit area, and he's not ready to retire.

Nicola's, at 10,000 square feet, is large for an independent bookstore. She calls it "a good size. Big enough to have a pretty good selection of things, but not so big that you think 'where is fiction?'" It was a superstore when it was built in 1991, she reminisces, "then they started building stores three or four times this size." The store was originally the flagship of



the Little Professor chain, which was then owned by local Jon Wisotzkey. Wisotzkey died in 1992, and Rooney bought the store as a franchise in 1995; she later took it independent after a legal battle.

She said holiday sales were brisk, as usual, "though Christmas season is usually a lot of people you don't see at other times of year." Best sellers were Donna Tartt's art-world novel *The Goldfinch* and *The Art of Rube Goldberg*, a sixty-dollar coffee-table book.

Nicola's Books, 2513 Jackson (Westgate), 662-0600. Spring hours (starting mid-March) Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-9 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.-8 p.m., Sun. 9 a.m.-6 p.m. nicolasbooks.com

Over at Bookbound, Megan and Peter Blackshear were visibly relieved to hear



Nicola Rooney (top) says "there are a lot of zeroes" in her asking price, and the sale has nothing to do with the opening of two smaller indies last year. "I have no doubt someone will buy [Nicola's]," agrees Hilary Gustafson of Literati (above left, with husband Mike at the store's opening last year). Over at Bookbound, Megan and Peter Blackshear were visibly relieved to hear that Rooney isn't exiting the book business because they and Literati entered it.

that Rooney isn't exiting the book business because they and Literati had entered it. The Blackshears had heard that she was trying to sell but kept quiet about it. They agree that there is, in theory, enough business for everyone.

So how was their first holiday season? "Well, it was definitely better than November," says Megan. "But other than that, we don't have any basis for comparison."

"The data doesn't tell us a whole lot," agrees Peter. "We just go day to day. But here's something: We were mentally prepared for a bad January, but it's been better than November. That seems to mean the word is getting out."

They didn't have any runaway hits during the high season. "I don't know how it is at Literati or Nicola's," he says, "but our sales are really dispersed. We've sold a thousand books, but it's usually one or two of a title." Still, they had a few best sellers, including *The Goldfinch* and blogger Al-



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Marketplace Changes

lie Brosh's collection of essays, *Hyperbole and a Half*.

"We've tweaked the bookstore here and there since opening," says Megan. "The fiction section used to be mostly face out, but now we're mostly spined out"—bookseller vocabulary meaning they've filled the shelves library style. She says that while it's true that she can read anything she wants for free, "I've gotten really good at reading like this." She mimes reading a book opened about four inches to avoid cracking the spine.

Bookbound, 1729 Plymouth (Court-yard Shops), 369-4345. Tues.-Thurs. & Sun. 11 a.m.-8 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Closed Mon. Bookboundbookstore.com.

20.20.20

Over at *Literati*, Hilary Gustafson says she and husband/partner, Mike, had, like the Blackshears, heard through the book grapevine that Nicola's was for sale and kept it quiet. Hilary was at the American Booksellers Association conference in Seattle when the *Publishers Weekly* article came out, "and it was all anyone at the conference wanted to talk about. Nicola's is a well-known, well-respected bookstore nationwide."

"We've heard rumors about who's interested," she says, but declines to name any names. "I have no doubt someone will buy the store. It's a vital part of the community, and someone will step up to the plate and take it over."

"We hope it will be someone local," she continues. "We hope they keep the staff on"—she calls them "friends." The book world in Ann Arbor is a small one, and everyone knows each other. As for *Literati*, "we're trying to be the best bookstore we can be. We had a great first year: we surpassed what we projected for year three, so we've come up with a whole new list of projections. We've been able to hire two full-time employees"—manager Jeanne Joesten and events coordinator John Ganiard.

From the beginning, the Gustafsons recognized that a downtown bookstore can no longer make its nut on a customer base of bibliophiles who spend hours browsing the shelves—those customers are the icing on the cake. Curating social media and planning events are serious business here, and the website has a shopping cart, allowing customers to support their local downtown bookstore in a virtual way. "Of course, lots of people also shop online then pick up items at the store," Hilary says.

Literati's sales over the holidays reflected the Gustafsons' marketing efforts. In addition to (of course) *The Goldfinch*, their bestsellers were books they promoted by in-store events: *Poetry in Michigan/Michigan in Poetry*, a collection illustrated by works of Michigan artists, and *Fourth and Long: The Fight for the Soul of College Football*, by local author John U. Bacon.

Literati, 124 E. Washington, 585-5567. Mon.-Thurs. 10 a.m.-9 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 10 a.m.-10 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Literatibookstore.com

Changes at the Colonnade

*A ramble around the
neighborhood*

For free entertainment you could do worse than stop in at the magic show that always seems to be going on at **Oreck Clean Home Center**, as the chain calls its stores now. It isn't just a vacuum cleaner store anymore. Mike Ervin likes to demonstrate products. At the moment, his favorite trick is to spray greasy furniture polish on a mirror and make it disappear with something called an E-cloth. E-cloths are a line of sustainable microfiber wipes and sponges for various surfaces. Used dry or dampened with water—never with detergent—they are machine washable and promise about 300 cleanings per cloth.

The magic show wasn't free after all; the E-cloth was too irresistible. But \$14 later, Erwin stopped his demo long enough to talk about what happened to **Green Health** next door. You might remember Green Health opened a little more than a year ago, a franchise of a San Diego-based company that dried its own line of organic fruits and vegetables in an antiseptic, hot, sunny, and undisclosed location in Mexico.

Then again, you might not. "They were only there for four weeks," says Ervin. "It wasn't their fault," he says of franchise owners Heidi and John Obeid and their daughter Ashley Herzig, the store manager. "There was some problem, some lawsuit at the corporate level." Attempts to reach the Obeids or Herzig were unsuccessful, and the company seems to have made like their food and evaporated.

—J.D.

"Four weeks?" says Ali Hijazi. "It was more like one week!" Hijazi, owner of **Zamaan Café** on the other side of the Green Health space doesn't know any more than Ervin about the disappearance of the Obeids or Green Health corporate, but he decided to take over its lease. In late January, he was filling the former Green Health space's nearly pristine shelves. The space was about to become **Reena Market**.

Hijazi, who opened the Colonnade's Zamaan Café a few years ago (he has another on Plymouth Road), saw an opportunity to put a much-needed convenience store in the shopping center. "People who live in the apartments around here come for lunch and dinner"—the Colonnade is a virtual food court of burgers, sandwiches, and inexpensive ethnic options—"but they need other stuff." And because Zamaan is already delivering, Reena Market will offer delivery, making it the first grocery store in town to deliver since White Market closed. "I'm trying it, anyway. We'll see if it works," Hijazi says with a philosophical shrug.

Because Middle Eastern is what he does, Reena Market will be a combina-

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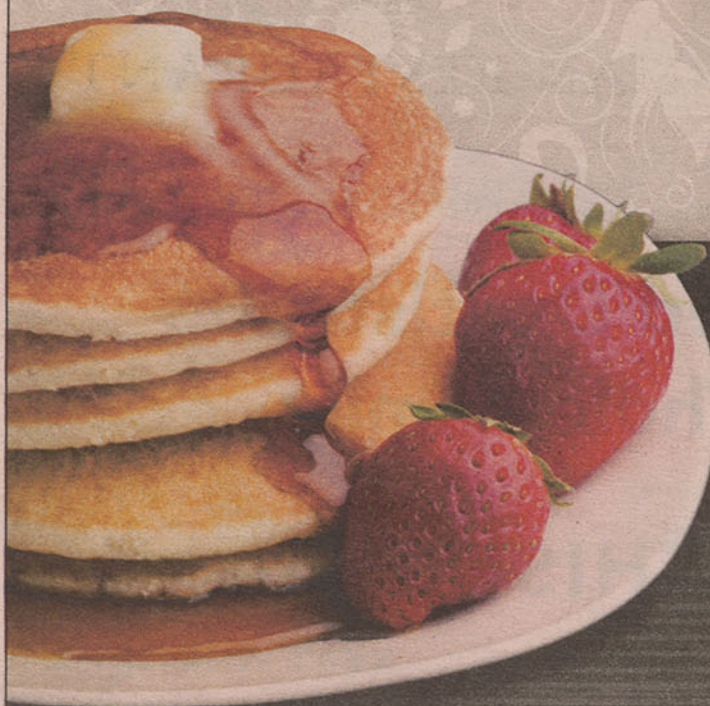
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J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Reena Market manager Nadia Issa and owner Ali Hijazi. Hijazi, who owns Zamaan Café next door, saw the closing of the short-lived Green Health as an opportunity to put a much-needed convenience store in the Colonnade.

tion convenience store and Middle Eastern grocery. He was fretting slightly in late January that the transportation mess caused by the cold, snowy winter had delayed his opening date—the cheeses, the olives, the yogurts, and the spices were languishing in trucks in the wrong parts of the country. All he had on his shelves were his nonperishables—candy bars, cigarettes, soft drinks, grains, jars of tahini, and jars of *kashk* (powdered yogurt mixed with bulgur). Hijazi reels off a couple of classic recipes that use it, and says, “old men and women are always telling kids it’s good for them.”

As we were leaving, a girl of about eight stuck her head in and said “Is this your place? It’s so cool! When you open, I’m coming in here to get a lot of candy.” (Unless her parents are with her—then she’s liable to get a jar of *kashk*.)

Zamaan Café itself has transformed since last time we checked in. Hijazi has a deft touch with interior design. The space is open, painted in light colors, and gently perfumed with the scent of cumin and mint. A glass case displays a large selection of baklava and similar pastries for a dollar each.

Down at the other end of the Colonnade, Children’s Orchard snapped up a few empty nearby storefronts (the former Contours and Cartridge World) to open the second location of its sister operation, Style Trader. Jennifer Fields, the manager of Style Trader, which opened its first store a few years ago in Livonia, says the store deals in used clothing and accessories for teens, men, and women and was expected to open in February. “The fun, the thrill of the hunt, and the down economy,” she says are all reasons why resale is flourishing.

And like Children’s Orchard, Style Trader will talk franchise with anyone who’s interested. Children’s Orchard, a network of forty stores started in 1980 on the East Coast, is now owned by local serial entrepreneur Taylor Bond.

Oreck Clean Home Center, 869 W. Eisenhower (Colonnade). 669-0700. Mon.–Sat. 10 a.m.–7 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–6 p.m. myoreckstore.com

Reena Market, 867 W. Eisenhower (Colonnade). 769-1113. Mon.–Sat. 10 a.m.–8 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m.


Zamaan Café, 865 W. Eisenhower (Colonnade). 769-1113. Mon.–Thurs. 10:30 a.m.–9 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 10:30 a.m.–10 p.m., Sun. 11 a.m.–9 p.m.

Style Trader, 893 W. Eisenhower (Colonnade). 994-3400. Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–7 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m. StyleTrader.biz

Briefly Noted

“We’ve expanded into gifts, handmade items, scarves, jewelry, starting at \$8.50. There’s a lot in here for under \$100,” reports Graham Mitchell, who started working in the Pierre Paul Art Gallery four years ago as a framer and eventually created a job for himself as media and marketing coordinator.

Now the business has moved to new digs, widened its focus, and changed its name to the Pierre Paul Design Studio. Owner Leveille Jean-Gilles took up an interest in interior design a few years ago and is using the new gallery to showcase his talents: see, for instance, “the beautiful window displays,” says Mitchell, and there are a lot of them: “We have windows on three sides, and we’re on the ground floor, two things we didn’t have in the old



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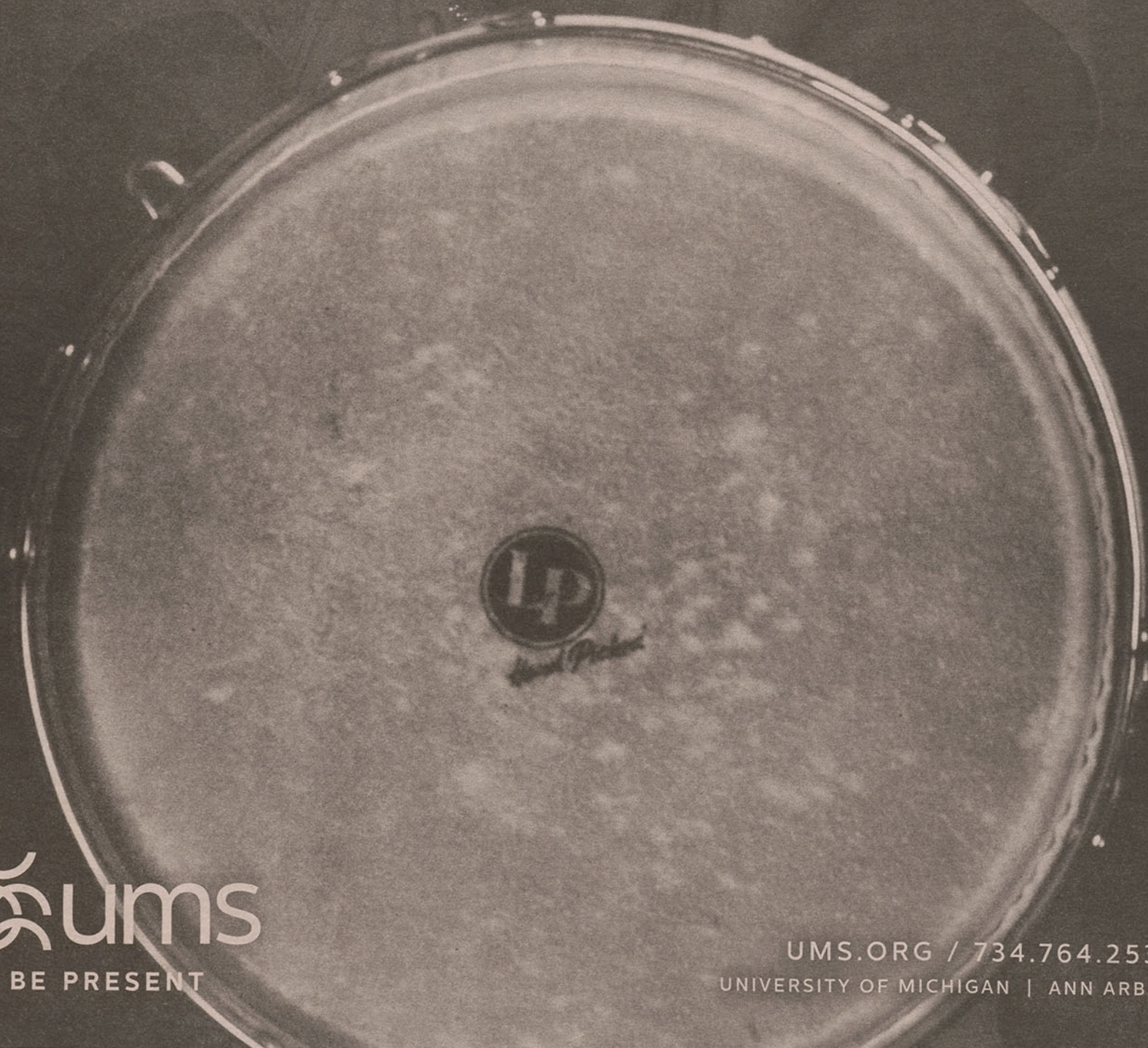
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MARCH EVENTS



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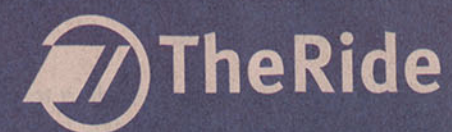
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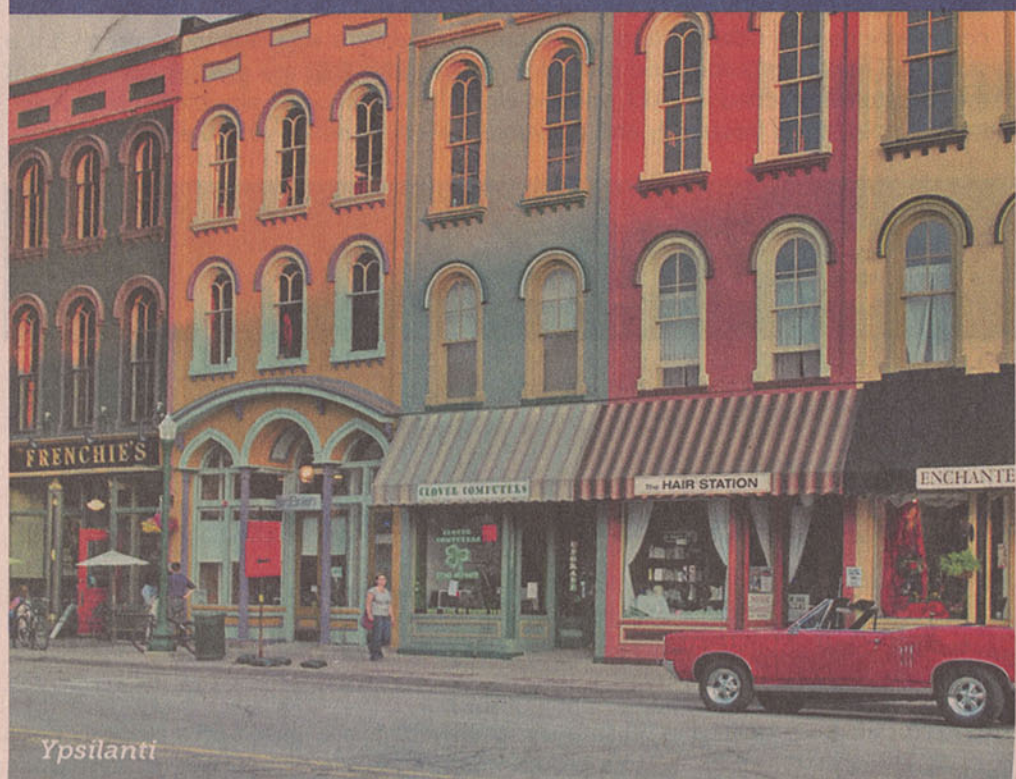
Ann Arbor

Our way of life

2013 Community Report



Full report at TheRideCitizenReport.org



Ypsilanti



Ypsilanti Township



TheRide *Your Way*

As the TheRide welcomes new members into the Authority to create a true urban core transportation system, there are opportunities to improve service for all residents. Through input from the community, over the next few years TheRide will look to improve service, focusing on accessibility of jobs, economic health and public safety. For more information, visit TheRideCitizenReport.org.



\$96 million economic impact¹

\$28 million transportation cost savings
(money saved over traditional transportation)

\$4 million affordable mobility
(money saved versus private transportation for seniors and the disabled)

44% more service

90,000 additional service hours

Community Engagement

TheRide held 13 public meetings to help develop a five-year transit improvement plan, hearing thousands of suggestions from hundreds of community members. While obviously not every specific request can be achieved, we're thrilled that the plan is able to incorporate many of those specific needs voiced at the meetings, a few of which are detailed below. TheRide would like to thank everyone who helped guide this plan. We hope to see all, and more, at future meetings.

90,000

hours



- New weekend service
- Later evening service
- More destinations
- Increased frequency for the Ann Arbor & Ypsilanti area

15%

reduction in drunk driving for each additional hour of evening transit service²

250

new jobs, at least, in the Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti areas

1,000

open parking spaces in downtown Ann Arbor alone, the equivalent of building one new parking structure at a cost of

\$40 million³



Cost is less than a cup of coffee per week for residents with a home value of \$200,000.⁴

SOURCES

¹ "Economic and Community Benefits of Local Bus Transit Service" Michigan Department of Transportation, August 2009
Based on the Urban Core materials dated March 29, 2013

² "One for the Road" - Cornell University Study, December 2008

³ \$40,000,000 is the total and does not include the monetary and opportunity costs of using the land for parking.

⁴ Based on .7-mill 5-year property tax increase in the city of Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti, and Ypsilanti Township.

request can be achieved, we're thrilled that the plan is able to incorporate many of those specific needs voiced at the meetings a few of which are detailed below. TheRide would like to thank everyone who helped guide this plan. We hope to see all, and more, at future meetings.



Lynn Murrel

Request:

"I'm particularly interested in Sunday service to the (Meijer) store from Ypsilanti area. I support evening and weekend service increases. There are many employers who have trouble scheduling employees on Sunday because the bus doesn't run to the Carpenter Road area that day."

We Can Do That!

Add hourly Sunday service between the Ypsilanti Transit Center and Meijer on Carpenter Rd. (Currently service runs between the BTC and Meijer on Carpenter.)



Pei-Zhen Yang

Request:

"Please extend Route 1 from Plymouth to downtown via Arrowwood at 6:34 a.m. I work on campus."

We Can Do That!

As a result of your input, we have modified the Five-Year Transit Program so the Route #1 will begin the first trip at Plymouth Mall at 6:22 rather than at 6:34 as originally programmed.



Ben Miller

Request:

"I would suggest you do Sunday service on Route M in the first year because it is the only library branch open on Sunday in Ypsilanti."

We Can Do That!

Sunday service is now being implemented in year 1 instead of year 2 as originally planned.

What's proposed?

Later weekday service on:



More weekday service on:



Redesigned routes for more direct service:



In addition to the benefits of expanded fixed-route service, seniors and people with disabilities will benefit from expanded dial-a-ride service, making it possible to go more places and travel on weekdays and weekends.

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News in 2013

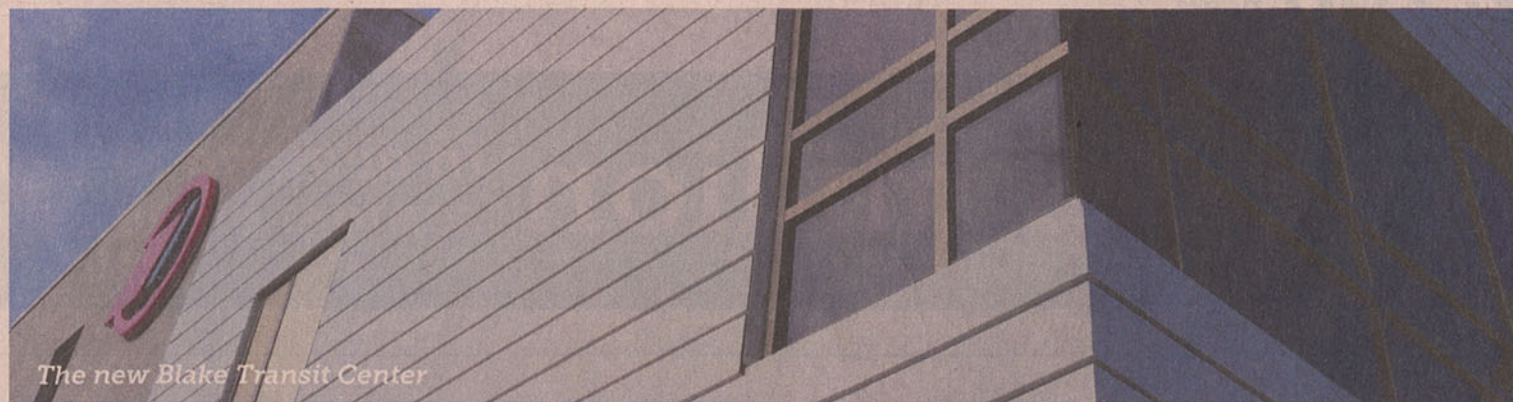
2013 was an eventful year for TheRide. We welcomed Ypsilanti & Ypsilanti Township into the Authority, broke ridership records (again), improved technology, and our operations were more efficient than ever. This report includes key accomplishments, challenges and metrics from 2013 and a forecast for the years to come.

Ridership

NEW RECORD! **6.6 million** in 2013
175,000 increase from 2012

Welcome Ypsilanti & Ypsilanti Township

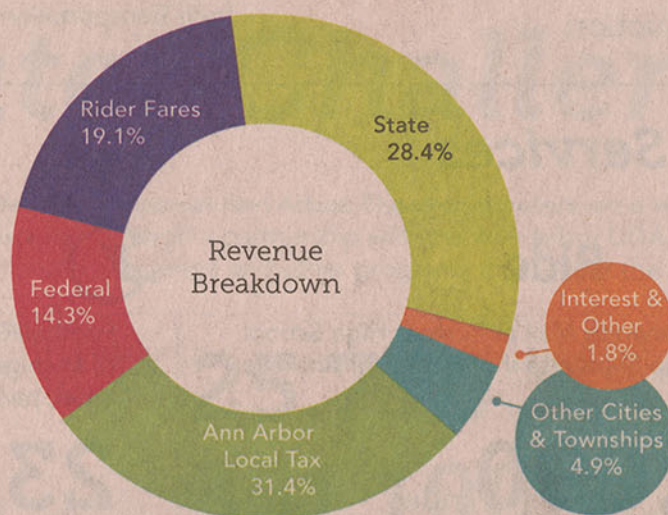
Now included in the Authority, with one board member each, the newly named Ann Arbor Area Transportation Authority will be able to operate longer-term, more predictable services throughout the urban-core region.



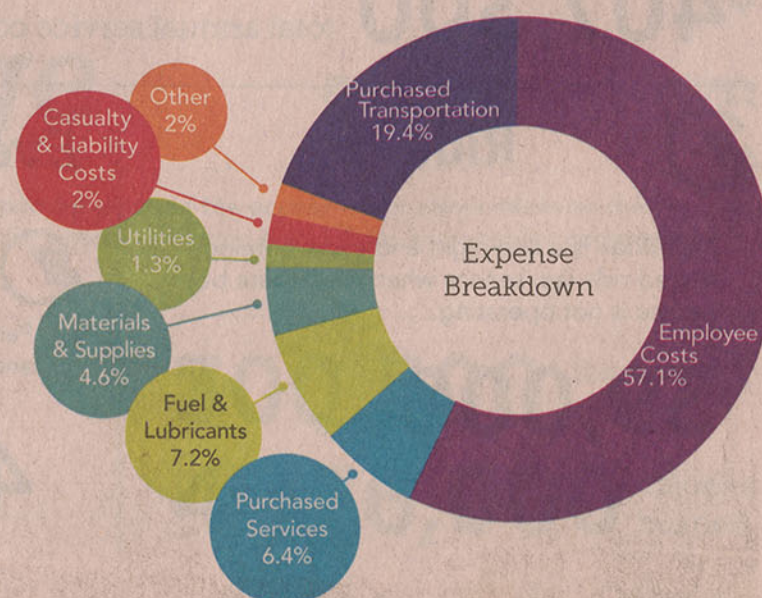
Financials

Stewardship in 2013 made for \$290k in savings over projected spending. For full audit, go to TheRideCitizenReport.org.

Operating Revenue



Operating Expenses



ALFREDO RODRIGUEZ TRIO AND PEDRITO MARTINEZ GROUP

Friday, March 14, 8 pm
Michigan Theater

Alfredo Rodriguez performs with the open spirit of a culture rooted in dancing. He imparts a youthful, riveting artistry that fuses Latin music and jazz in surprising and beautiful ways. This double-bill performance also features percussionist and vocalist Pedrito Martinez, whose vibrant music combines Cuban folklore, religious Yourba chants, batá melodies, and the traditional clave beat of Latin jazz.

SPONSORED BY:  

MEDIA PARTNERS: WEMU 89.1 FM and WDET 101.9 FM

ISRAEL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

Zubin Mehta, music director
Saturday, March 15, 8:45 pm
Hill Auditorium

PROGRAM
| Bruckner Symphony No. 8 in c minor (1890 version)

A Prelude Dinner precedes the performance.
Reservations: 734.764.8489

SUPPORTED BY: Gil Omenn and Martha Darling

FUNDED IN PART BY:  

MEDIA PARTNERS: WGTE 91.3 FM and Detroit Jewish News

ELIAS STRING QUARTET

Tuesday, March 18, 7:30 pm
Rackham Auditorium

PROGRAM
| Debussy String Quartet (1893)
| Kurtág Officium Breve (1988-89)
| Beethoven Quartet in e minor, Op. 52, No. 2 (1806)

MEDIA PARTNER: WGTE 91.3 FM

TARA ERRAUGHT, MEZZO-SOPRANO

Dearbhia Collins, piano
Thursday, March 20, 7:30 pm
Hill Auditorium

Few emerging artists have captured the attention of the international opera public as the Irish-born mezzo-soprano Tara Erraught. She won widespread acclaim in February 2011, jumping in on short notice for an ailing colleague to perform Romeo in a new production of Bellini's *I Capuleti e i Montecchi*. In 2013, her Vienna State Opera debut left critics elated and audiences stunned. A UMS debut, includes works by Haydn, Respighi, Wolf, Gluck, Ponchielli, and more.

MEDIA PARTNER: WGTE 91.3 FM

ASIF ALI KHAN QAWWALI MUSIC OF PAKISTAN

Friday, March 21, 8 pm
Rackham Auditorium

If the late, great Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan (1948-97) was known as "the emperor of Qawwali," Asif Ali Khan — who was once hailed by the maestro as one of his best students — has surely emerged as the music's reigning prince. Asif is a superstar in his native Pakistan and a powerful figure on the international stage, remaining faithful to the sublime traditions of devotional Sufi music.

Supported by The University of Michigan Museum of Art with lead funding provided by The Doris Duke Foundation for the Arts.



FORD HONORS PROGRAM

JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER ORCHESTRA WITH WYNTON MARSALIS, TRUMPET

Sunday, March 30, 4 pm
Hill Auditorium

UMS honors Wynton Marsalis and the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with the UMS Distinguished Artist Award in this concert that features jazz from New Orleans and Detroit and music by Duke Ellington.

SPONSORED BY:  Ford Motor Company Fund and Community Services

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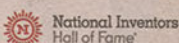


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Marketplace Changes

place above Mimi's Bridal shop."

Pierre Paul's new spot is just down the road in Arlington Square, at the corner of Huron Parkway and Washtenaw, where the PNC bank used to be. (Mitchell says PNC shut down the location because it needed a drive-through.)

Pierre Paul's très French owner's last name is pronounced "zhawhn-zheel," and the first name is even harder to pronounce—so he goes by "Lee." Lee still exhibits artists, from the internationally known Arthur Secunda to locals like Mark Sedgeman and Leslie Masters. And, as before, the gallery doubles as a frame shop.

Pierre Paul Design, 3252 Washtenaw (Arlington Square). 975-1050. Tues.-Fri. 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Closed Sun. & Mon. Pierrepauldesign.com

In the Works

Kuroshio closed. The building's landlord, Ed Shaffran, explains that the father and son team Ken and Alan Wang "are wonderful people, but I think Ken would tell you, they're not restaurant people." Son Alan is "a smart kid, he'll get into med school somewhere." (Alan declined an acceptance to the Stony Brook University med school in 2012 to help his father get the restaurant off the ground.)

Almost in the same breath, Shaffran is bubbling over about the restaurant that will take its place. **Piata** is the first new local venture in years by Dennis Serras, whose Mainstreet Ven-

tures owns sixteen restaurants around the country, including four that anchor the south end of downtown: Real Seafood, Grati, Palio, and the Chop House. Shaffran is a longtime friend of Serras: "I haven't seen this Dennis Serras in twenty years. He's back in the game!" Shaffran laughs. "He's talked about this concept for years: Mediterranean small plates."

Serras's parents were Greek immigrants, and Serras himself has a house in Greece. Says Shaffran: "It's food he knows. If you were lucky enough to go to the Serras house on a Sunday, as I often was, that's what it will be: the lamb, the whole shooting match." He adds, aware that his description of the menu is lacking in detail, "Ed Shaffran is not a food guy—I just like to eat."

Closings

This isn't the first time there have been eulogies for the **Blue Front**, but this time, it's actually closing. Back in 1988, Lois Kane noted in this column that it had al-

ready changed owners three times since its heyday in the 1960s and '70s, when, she remembered fondly, "Sunday morning was the time when husbands fulfilled their domestic duties by going over to Ralph's Grocery to buy a bag of bagels ... Then they went next door to the Blue Front ... to buy a hefty, inky *New York Times*."

Mike Gould worked for original owner Ray Collins as a stock boy in 1965, making, he believes, "about \$1.75 an hour." He writes: "My job was to haul in the morning newspapers. Sometimes early rising readers desperate for their fix would dig the *New York Times* out of the bundles and leave money on top or scattered around on the ground."

"We stocked several international magazines: *Die Zeit*, *La Monde*, *USSR Magazine*, and the like. Even some Chinese propaganda magazines. It was also one of the few places in town where you could get that era's soft porn magazines such as *Stag*, *Man's Story*, and *Real Balls*. I may have made that last one up, but you get the gist. We even had gay mags involving beefy guys dressed as sailors and such." And some customers came in—though probably not at their wives' direction—just to buy the *Daily Racing Form*: "It was printed on pink or green paper or something, and we sold five or ten of these every day."

Blue Front's closing will temporarily leave four contiguous empty storefronts on this formerly lively corner. One vacancy is finally being filled: a number of

building permits have been issued for **Get Some Burritos**, a Wisconsin chain that will have a store in the former Oriental Express.

• • •

By the time you read this, the **Wild Bird Center** in Trav-

er Village should be closed. "I don't have a definitive date," says Lisa Haanpaa, who's owned the franchise since 2009, but she planned to close "whenever the merchandise runs out" and no later than the end of February. Haanpaa says that transient students have replaced the settled, upper-income customers who patronized the store when Pfizer was across the street. Though she bought the franchise and took over the lease from previous owner Wayne Baker after Pfizer left town, at the time she didn't understand how the changing demographics would affect her business. Students, she says, don't usually feed birds. Haanpaa also owned a Wild Bird Center in Brighton, which she closed in 2010. "I guess I'll go back to accounting," her original profession, she sighs.

• • •

A sign on the door of the former **Biwako Sushi** at Woodland Plaza says a Mediterranean restaurant, **Damas**, is "coming soon." Owner Andy Kwon's original Biwako Sushi, in Saline, is still open. ■

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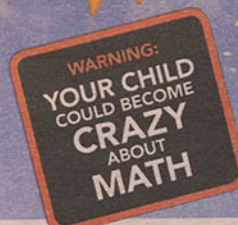
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• **Extended care:** 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 to 6 p.m., \$50 resident; \$60 nonresident. *Prorated price the week of July 4 (no camp that day).

FULLER PARK DAY CAMP

1519 Fuller Road | 734.794.6236 | www.a2gov.org/fuller

Our camp is located at the bend of the Huron River in Fuller Park. Meet friends, learn new skills and experience some of Ann Arbor's treasures. Enjoy swimming, sports, games, arts & crafts and more for ages 5 to 12. Each week we explore a new theme and every afternoon, we cool off in Fuller Park pool and waterslide. Register by March 15 to receive a \$20 discount per week.

• **Fees:** \$190 resident; \$230 nonresident. | **Hours:** M-F, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
• **Extended camp:** 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 to 6 p.m. \$50 resident; \$60 nonresident. *Prorated price the week of July 4 (no camp that day).

GALLUP RIVER CAMP

3000 Fuller Road | 734.794.6240 | www.a2gov.org/canoe

Experience perfect summer days on the Huron River as we kayak, canoe, paddleboat, fish, cookout, art, and play in Gallup Park.

• **Fees:** \$225 resident; \$275 nonresident. | **Hours:** M-F, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
• **Extended Camp:** 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. & 4:30 to 6 p.m.; \$50 resident; \$60, nonresident. *Prorated price the week of July 4 (no camp that day).

ARGO RIVER CAMP

1055 Longshore Drive | 734.794.6241

www.a2gov.org/canoe

Join us as we journey out each day paddling our boats down different sections of the Huron River. Explorations include kayaking, canoeing, SUP, tubing, rafting, fishing, geocaching, disc golf games and a bonfire lunch. Argo River Camp is for children ages fifth through eighth grades, based out of a cabin at the Argo Livery. Session limited to 12 campers.

• **Fees:** \$225 resident; \$275 nonresident. | **Hours:** M-F, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
• **Extended Camp:** 4 to 5:30 p.m.; \$50 resident; \$60 nonresident. *Prorated price the week of July 4 (no camp that day).

HURON HILLS JUNIOR GOLF CAMP

3465, E. Huron River Drive 734.794.6246 | a2golf.org

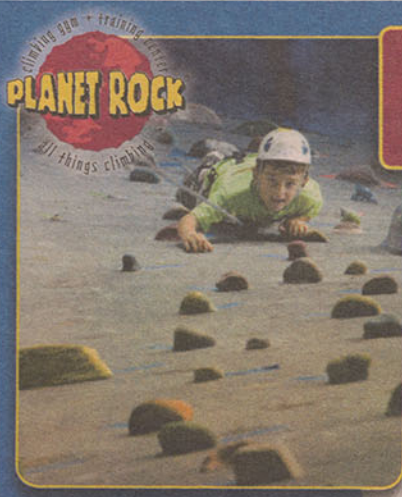
Huron Hills Golf Course will offer junior golf camps for boys and girls ages 8 to 15 years old. Young golfers of all abilities can have fun learning the game of golf, including the fundamentals and sportsmanship. This camp is great for beginner and intermediate junior golfers. This camp is two hours, Monday through Thursday, for two weeks from 9 to 11 a.m. or 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

• **Fees:** \$115/camp, \$15 off each additional camp.
• No class the week of Aug. 4 due to the junior golf championship.



VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO REGISTER
TODAY! YOU WILL ALSO FIND DATE
AND THEMED WEEK DETAILS:
WWW.A2GOV.ORG/CAMPS





CLIMBING CAMP ANN ARBOR & MADISON HEIGHTS

Planet Rock Camps offer action packed fitness and fun as well as teach climbing techniques and safety.

- Half-day camp for kids ages 8-15
- ABC half-day camp for kids ages 4-7
- All day extended camp select weeks

For details & registration
www.planet-rock.com

*Planet Rock in Pontiac is relocating to Madison Heights this spring. Check our website for updates!

SUMMER Camps



If you're ready for summer the way we are here at the Observer, you will be happy to note that we have scouted out a group of top-notch summer camps this year for Washtenaw County. Anything that keeps our mind off the negative-number temperatures and icy streets is a welcome thought! So whether you have a budding artist in your home, a future equestrian who just needs an open field, or a sports junkie who is looking for like-minded teammates, we have the perfect camp for all types of campers this summer. Say it with me now: no more snow, no more snow, no more snow!

Little Red Riding Hood visits a sick Rumpelstilzchen, the Seven Dwarves meet the witch, the nasty wolf runs into Hansel and Gretel— or was it the other way around? Education and adventure are the themes at **German School of Ann Arbor**. Campers will learn the German language from professional German teachers, and customs and traditions are covered as well in this weeklong camp. Kids will explore adventure in the Brothers Grimm's mixed-up fairytale kingdom, learn traditional German songs, and prepare a stage play, which will be presented at the end of the week.

Rocks and Robots is a rockin' good place for your tech-loving kid! Start your campers ages 6-9 with introductory robotic and engineering classes, where they will learn how to program software to design their own Lego model robot in a customized animated story. More advanced programmers, ages 10-12, can try out the advanced

Robot Sumo, where they can program a sumo bot to battle using switches, logic blocks, and other possible programming from both the common and complete palettes. These robots can even leave the earth in the Flying Robot camp for kids ages 11-15. For years campers have asked, "Can we make it fly?" and now the answer is yes! During this camp, kids will learn how to properly and safely fly using simple hand tools while being closely supervised.

Jump into **U-M Swim Camp!** Olympian and NCAA All-American staff are looking forward to meeting your swimmer, ages 8-18. This is not a "learn to swim" camp, but a learn to be a swimmer camp. Campers are HD filmed daily and receive a written stroke analysis to encourage each swimmer to strive for excellence in and out of the pool. Swimmers 10-18 are welcome to stay in the dorms on campus, which might help you out with your busy summer schedule. Register now to reserve your space and choose between two different training camps—space is limited.

Group games, fun craft projects, swimming, educational nature programs, fishing, and more are offered at Summer Day Camps with **Washtenaw County Parks**. Kids grade 1-age 11 can choose from among three parks in Washtenaw County: Independence Lake County Park, Meri Lou Murray Recreation Center, and Rolling Hills County Park. Pick the camp that suits you—one-week or ten-week camps offered. Pre- and post-care available.

STAMPS SCHOOL OF ART & DESIGN

Pre-College Studios for Creative Middle & High School Students

April 28 / June 4

Drawing From Observation

Afternoon class for developing drawing skills/learning how to create a portfolio. For current high school students.
Mon. / Wed. 4:00-6:30pm.

August 18 / 22

In the Middle

A week long art and design day camp for 6th, 7th & 8th grade students.



For more information including our residential programs please go to:
www.art-design.umich.edu/prospective/summer



SUMMERS-KNOLL CAMPS

June 16- August 29, 2014

Exciting new camp themes as well as old favorites promise an enthralling summer for your child. Register online!



www.summers-knoll.org

Plan a tour. info@summers-knoll.org | Ph. 734.971.7991
2203 Platt Road, Ann Arbor MI 48104



at the **YMCA Camp Copneconic Summer Camp Preview**

O-BA-G-BERS!

on **Saturday, March 29** from 2-5 pm.

Come prepared to experience the O-Ba-G-Bers! summer camp theme, tour our facility, meet the directors and staff and have your questions answered. We will be offering some of our favorite camp activities for you to sample.

www.campcopneconic.org | 10407 North Fenton Road, Fenton 48430

& Activities



Your football star will learn techniques and the fundamentals of the game at **Wolverine Technical School** day camps. Choose from three different camps that are all run by University of Michigan coaches and staff. Campers will experience life as their favorite U-M football player, as all camps grant access to the Big House training facilities! Housing is limited, so young campers are urged to register soon. Overnight and day camps are available. Don't drop the ball and pass on this one!

Experienced camp leaders create a playful environment that nurtures inclusion, cooperation, and friendship at **Blue Turtle** day camps. Your kids will learn fire skills, water gathering, planet use, drumming, and games, and explore culinary adventures at this unique camp. This hands-on camp fosters the development of nature awareness as well as outdoor survival skills. Weeklong, full-day camps for kids ages 7-12, and half-day camps for kids ages 4-6.

Coming to local Michigan schools this summer, **Camp Invention** is a weeklong adventure in creativity that immerses children entering grades 1-6 in exciting, hands-on activities that reinvent summer fun. Led by local educators, boys and girls are challenged to explore connections between science, technology, engineering and innovation. Participants spend their time building original prototypes and creating a personalized motor-powered vehicle, while designing, improving and analyzing their own inventions in a

team setting. Don't miss out on all the new challenges. Early registration discounts are available. Spaces are limited—register today!

MI Volleyball is the camp for volleyball players ages 10-18, starting with first-timers but not limited to those sporting volleyball varsity jackets! MI Volleyball offers one of the best camps in the country, and helps players improve their overall skills, get competitive volleyball experience, and focus on skill instruction while having fun. This popular camp has sold out the past five years, and offers both residential and day camp options. The 8:1 camper-to-coach ratio is helpful in creating an exciting and high-energy learning environment.

Give your dancer an edge at **Dancer's Edge** summer camps, where the staff of U-M graduates and dancers teach your child how to develop confidence, learn new skills, and have fun in an exciting environment! The director of the program is head coach of the U-M Dance Team, and personally works with students. Summer camps for teams and individuals focusing on Jazz, Pom, Hip-Hop, Contemporary, leadership workshops, and more! Customize camps for your programs.

Let's go to **Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation Summer Day Camps**! From pirates to princesses, cowboys to detectives, a different adventure awaits each week for children age 5-12 at Buhr Park Day Camp! Junior Golf Camp helps kids 8-15 have fun while learning the game

CULTIVATE YOUR CHILD'S CREATIVITY

Ann Arbor **Art Center**
CREATIVITY CAMP



<http://annarborartcenter.org/creativitycamp>



ANN ARBOR YMCA
400 West Washington
(734) 996-9622

ACHIEVE GROW BELONG

Summer Day Camps • ANN ARBOR YMCA

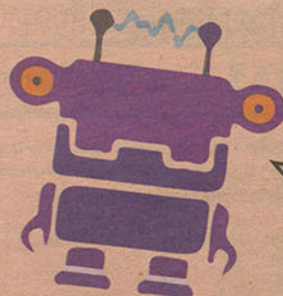
Discover all that the Y has to offer this summer for kids and teens ages 5-16. We offer half and full day programs at the Y or at Camp Birkett on Silver Lake (bus transportation from the Y.) Financial assistance available. For more information visit www.annarborymca.org.



Rocks
and
Robots™

MICHIGAN'S PREMIERE

TECHNOLOGY & ADVENTURE
DAY CAMP



NEW!
FLYING ROBOTS
THAT YOU BUILD
& KEEP!

WATCH FOR EARLY
REGISTRATION
DISCOUNTS!



• WWW.ROCKSANDROBOTS.COM • 734-645-0211
LOCATED IN ANN ARBOR • SPACE IS LIMITED •



Full Day & Half Day Camps Ages 5-7 & 8-12

Register Per Week • Pre & Post Camp Options Available
Tennis & Swim Lessons Included • Lunch & Snacks Included

June 16 through August 22

Specialty Camps

Preschool • Lacrosse • Lightsaber

Call for Details (734) 665-3738 ext. 57
or e-mail camp@libertyathletic.net
www.libertyathletic.net

LIBERTY
ATHLETIC
CLUB

MICHIGAN FOOTBALL SUMMER CAMPS

Kicking: June 13-14
 High School: June 15-19
 Youth (grades 6-8): June 20-22
www.michiganfootballcamp.com
 Message Center: (734) 647-1232
pbromley@umich.edu

Camps are open to any and all, subject to grade restrictions.



Summer Camps



of golf, including the fundamentals and sportsmanship. If your camper would prefer the water to the links, we have the camp for you! Meet new friends while fishing, swimming, and exploring different sections of the Huron River paddling on boats, kayaks, canoes, tubs, and rafts galore. Extended camps available, and early registration discounts offered.

Get your little chef prepared for culinary greatness! **Ann Arbor Cooks** offers deliciously fun summer camps for kids age 8-16. Kids will learn food education, basic cooking skills, kitchen safety, recipe reading, ingredient measuring, and plate presentation, and build kitchen confidence in a fun environment. Mix and match camps with themes that range from All American Classics to Global Gourmet. Classes aren't simplified for kids since Ann Arbor Cooks believes kids are just as capable as adults in the kitchen! Morning and evening classes are available.

Mathnasium helps make math make sense! Mathnasium offers a number of fun but challenging weeklong morning camps for kids kindergarten-6th grade. Summer packages are available, with 12-hour to 20-hour camp credits that you can use throughout the summer. Camp helps kids gain confidence in their math abilities, while overcoming challenges with the help of an experienced staff. Sign up by May 15 for free registration (\$50 value). By the end of the summer your kids will be saying math is just not a piece of cake, it's a piece of pi!

Summer camps at **Summers-Knoll School** are a whirlwind of activity and fun! Mix and match your ideal camp experience for your child from three hands-on camps: Action, Escape, and Theme. All camps are designed to pique curiosity, engage intrinsic desire to learn, and nurture emotional, social, and intellectual development. Escape Camp takes kids to local parks, museums, water parks, lakes, preserves, and other exciting local attractions. For the theater-loving, Theme Camp is a perfect fit, allowing campers to become characters in their favorite stories as they collaborate into a magical theatrical adventure. If you have daredevils on your hands, Action Camp would suit them well, engaging their brains and bodies in hands-on projects, games, and challenges, all held on the Summers-Knoll campus.

Ann Arbor Public Schools Community Education and Recreation camps now integrate more STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics) concepts! Over 150 camps are offered for kids from preschool-grade 12. These camps offer a variety of well-organized, age-appropriate activities including sports, science, nature, art, dance, drama, music, and much more. Camps are directed by capable and caring staff who understand the individual needs of each child. Camps are conveniently located and have safe, healthy, and dependable environments.

The **Ann Arbor YMCA** has a variety of day camps for kids ages 4-16.



MIKE BOTTOM
 Michigan Men's Coach
 US Olympian and Olympic Coach

DR. JOSH WHITE
 Michigan Associate Head Coach
 NCAA All American and National Champion

MARK HILL
 Michigan Assistant Coach
 3-time All ACC Swimmer



JIM RICHARDSON
 Camp Manager
 2-time NCAA Coach of the Year

RICK BISHOP
 Michigan Associate Head Coach
 USA Swimming National Team Staff Manager

DANIELLE TANSEL
 Michigan Assistant Coach
 NCAA Academic All American

Brad Shively
 Washington University Head Coach

Kurt Kirner
 Hillsdale College Head Coach

Roger Karns
 Lewis University Head Coach



2014 MICHIGAN SWIM CAMP

Gambetta Dryland Training • Technique and Intensive Training Options Available • 3 Instructional Sessions Per Day
 Daily Individual HD Filming & 1:1 Analysis • True Colors and Mindset Training • Olympians and NCAA All Americans
REGISTER EARLY! Camps are open to any and all entrants, limited only by age and specified number of participants.

2013 Camp Dates: • June 8-12 • June 22-26 • June 29-July 3 • August 3-7

Michigan Swim Camp

8160 Valley View Drive • Ypsilanti, MI 48197 • PH: 734-845-8596 • FAX: 734-484-1222
 To register online go to: www.michiganswimcamp.com • E-mail: umswim1@gmail.com



KidSport celebrates 25 years!

KidSport Discounts are back!

June 16 - August 8

Half and Full Day Options

KidSport Morning teaches kids ages 4-15 swimming lessons and a variety of individual and team sports, fitness and team building games, and other physical activities - both indoors and out.

Cost: \$160 per week **Time:** 8am-12pm

KidSport Afternoon focuses on developing kids ages 7-15 sports skills rather than competition. Each week features a different sport, including tennis, basketball, dance, soccer, baseball/softball, flag football, cheerleading, strength speed and agility, and ultimate frisbee.

Cost: \$140 per week **Time:** 1pm-4pm

Aftercare: available for \$50 from 4pm-6pm

Partnering with Outdoor Adventures

Kids ages 8-12 experience rock climbing, canoeing and hiking.

Visit our website for registration information!

www.kines.umich.edu/umove/kidsport

Contact Information:

Kerry Winkelseth, Director | kidsport@umich.edu

Phone (734) 647-2708 | Fax (734) 647-6375



SUMMER DAY CAMPS

WITH WASHTENAW COUNTY PARKS

One-week sessions starting June 16

Three locations | First Graders - age 11

Monday - Friday, 9:15am - 4:15pm
 (One-hour pre- and post-care available for an extra fee)

Register at parks.ewashtenaw.org

Licensed by the State of Michigan
 Department of Human Services



GROUP GAMES,
 CRAFT PROJECTS,
 SWIMMING, NATURE
 PROGRAMS, FISHING
 AND MORE! FEE INCLUDES
 T-SHIRT, PARK ENTRANCE, AND FRIDAY
 SNACK & COOKOUT

Independence Lake County Park
 3200 Jennings Rd., Whitmore Lake
 734-449-4437 | \$135/week, 9 weeks

Meri Lou Murray Recreation Center
 2960 Washtenaw Ave., Ann Arbor
 734-971-6355 | \$150/week, 8 weeks

Rolling Hills County Park
 7660 Stony Creek Rd., Ypsilanti
 734-484-9676 | \$135/week, 10 weeks

MICHIGAN VOLLEYBALL 2014 SUMMER CAMPS

YOUTH CAMP

JUNE 16-19

GENERAL & ELITE SKILLS CAMP

SESSION 1: JULY 6-9
SESSION 2: JULY 13-16

TEAM CAMP

JULY 10-12

FOR MORE INFORMATION

(734) 764-5317

mvolleyball@umich.edu

mgoblue.com/camps

TO REGISTER ONLINE PLEASE VISIT
<https://camps.uciactive.com/orgs/michiganvolleyballcamps>

& Activities



Camp Birkett, an ACA-accredited program, provides traditional day camping on Silver Lake, and is the perfect place for your child to explore the summer outdoors. Transportation to and from Ann Arbor is available. Other camps are based at the Y in Ann Arbor, with special programs for 4-year-olds (Kinder-Camp), full day camp for kids 5-10 (Kidventure), and half-day themed camps for kids 5-16 (where morning and afternoon sessions may be combined for a full day of programming). Full-day opportunities for teens include Teen Adventure Camp and Youth Volunteer Corps. Financial assistance is available.

Brain Monkeys offers inquiry-based programs in Michigan's premier technology and adventure day camp. Your little techies can explore unique activities such as rock climbing, LEGO robotics, maker camp and more. Students are encouraged to think for themselves, investigate hypotheses, and pursue solutions for self-posted questions. After-school, evening, weekend, and private tutoring available year-round, and camps are available to kids of all ages.

First-time campers will love **Oak Trails Montessori** camps that offer both indoor and outdoor activities tailored to their comfort and needs. Kids ages 2½-7 will participate in small-group, large-group, and individual play involving a variety of activities including crafts, science, foreign language, cooking, picnics, yoga, and more. For the artistic camper: music, art, and gardening. Exploring nature will consume a

good deal of time for these half- and full-day camps. Optional before- and aftercare is available.

U-M KidSport is a great day camp for kids who like to be physically active, and is staffed by certified teachers and physical education majors. Half- and full-day options are available. KidSport Morning, ages 4-15, includes swimming, and individual and team activities. KidSport Afternoon, ages 7-15, has a different sport concentration each week such as soccer, basketball, football, tennis, and more. Scholarships and aftercare are available.

If you have a camper ready to play basketball, volleyball, flag football, soccer, T-ball, floor hockey, or lacrosse, or conquer the Ultimate Obstacle Course, **WideWorld Sports Kids K.A.M.P.** is for you! For a more competitive soccer environment, come to the WideWorld's Summer Soccer Camp. Taught by an international staff of licensed coaches, kids will learn their techniques and secrets for being a star on the field! Both camps available for kids ages 4-13. Full- and half-day programs are offered. Free before- and aftercare.

For kids looking to get back in the saddle again this summer, **Cedar Ridge Equestrian Center** is the camp where they can do it! Kids of all abilities ages 5-17 are welcome to experience horse-riding with mounting instruction twice a day, with both group and individual riding. Carolyne Wheeler, accredited district commissioner of the United States Pony Club, supervises the program

SUMMER CAMP AT THE REPTILE ZOO!

3-day & 5-day camps

Calling all animal lovers! Explore the zoo, make new friends and discover how to care for our animals and our Earth.

FOR MORE INFO OR TO REGISTER

www.glzszoo.org

(734) 332-1628

education@glzszoo.org



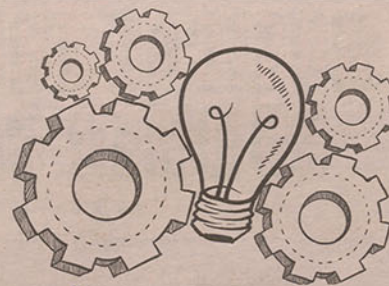
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Ann Arbor, MI 48103

SCHEDULE BY APRIL 30 TO RECEIVE
A \$25 EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT



Technology & Adventure Summer Day Camp 2014

Arduino
Spycraft
Electronics
Rock Climbing
Outdoor Games



Robotics
LEGO
Stop Motion
Animation
Video Game
Design

Early
Registration
Discount!



Don't lose
your spot!

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Summer Day Camps!

18TH ANNUAL SUMMER MULTI-SPORT

KIDS KAMP

Full & Half Day

Ages 5 - 13

Free Before & After Care
Weekly/Daily Sessions Available
June 16 - August 29

Campers will experience
games & activities,
learn motor skills & teamwork,
increase physical fitness &

HAVE FUN!



FREE BEFORE AND AFTER CARE



WIDEWORLD SPORTS
SUMMER SOCCER CAMP

Full & Half Day

Ages 5 - 13

Free Before & After Care
Weekly/Daily Sessions Available
June 16 - August 29

Players will learn
fundamental skills,
build confidence &

HAVE FUN!

**WIDEWORLD
SPORTS CENTER**

(734) 913-4625
www.WideWorldSports.com

DANCERS EDGE AT "STUDIO D"

Competitive Dance Programs

Home of U of M Dance Team

Summer Camps & Classes

Princess Camps, Pom Camps, Musical Theater Camps, Art Camps, Dance Camps, Girls Empowered Leadership Classes and more!

Register online at www.DextersDancersEdge.com

Jazz • Hip-Hop • Ballet • Lyrical • Studio Technique • Tap • Baton • Cheer
Voice Lessons • Piano Lessons • Adult Fitness • Art Classes
Team Building & Motivational Seminars • Girls/Boys Empowered
Leadership Workshop • All ages Welcome • Private Lessons Available



734.424.2626 • 3045 Broad St., Dexter
dextersdancersedge@yahoo.com

Cedar Ridge Equestrian Center



"The skills and friendships that my daughters have gained from CREC are invaluable. I can't recommend it enough!" — Melanie de Vries, Parent

FUN & More!

CREC Summer Horse Camp

Teamwork • Confidence • Fitness • Friends

For More Information:
(734)476.8346 pony4carol@att.net
www.cedarridgeequestriancenter.com

July 21-25
July 28-Aug 1
Aug 4-8

Each camp week runs
daily 9am - 3pm

Kindergarteners-8th graders

New surprises every week!

Dixboro United Methodist
Church: 5221 Church St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48105

Contact Yvonne for info:
734-995-0313
yvonnesteve@comcast.net

Registration fees:
by March 15: \$220
March 16-April 15: \$230
Registration after April 15: \$250
10% discount for each additional child

The Deutsche Schule Ann Arbor presents

MUSICAL THEATER SUMMER CAMP

ALL IN GERMAN

The Mixed Up Fairytale Kingdom

The nasty wolf runs into Hänsel und Gretel. The 7 dwarves meet the witch. Or was it the other way around? Sing, dance, and build sets with us to help the characters find their right tale. This camp is for anyone who likes to have fun discovering something new while speaking German.

deutscheschuleannarbor.weebly.com/english.html



SUMMER Camps



and is certified in CPR and first aid. The camp is fun and educational, and riders are grouped according to ability so everyone can ride safely!

Knowledgeable and experienced staff will help your camper rock out this summer at **Planet Rock** climbing camps. Since 1996, Planet Rock has provided kids with a safe and fun environment to experiment with movement and practice teamwork while improving agility, communication, balance, and coordination. Camps available for kids age 4-15. Extended hours camp offered to accommodate working families.

For the budding artists in your home, **U-M School of Art Camps** are a great choice. Campers will build drawing skills and learn how to put a professional portfolio together for admissions. Drawing from Observation camp allows current creative high school students to experience what it's like to take a college-level drawing class and gives students the opportunity to have a career discussion with Stamps School of Art & Design career coordinators. In The Middle, a camp for the younger student, is an art and design camp for kids grades 6-8. Make this summer a beautiful one.

Get them off the ice and on the field at **Pinnacle Field Hockey Summer Camps**. Passionate instructors strive to instill their love of the game in each camper grade 3 and up. Programming is age appropriate per group, and meets once a week for six weeks. Pick your schedule with a variety of times and dates to help

work in your schedule. Camp held at Pioneer High School, and online registration begins March 10.

Have you ever been tickled by a tortoise or "sniffed" by a snake? Enjoy an unforgettable summer of learning to appreciate, care for, and protect exotic and indigenous reptiles, amphibians, and invertebrates both indoors and out at **Great Lakes Zoological Society!** Fun, safe, hands-on activities to teach kids about environmental conservation, animal care, handling and much more are offered at this exciting summer camp. Each week, the enthusiastic and knowledgeable staff will lead campers in this 3-day or 5-day camp for kids grades 1-7. Scholarships and group discounts are available.

Whether your kids are couch potatoes or fitness enthusiasts, **Camp Liberty** has a place for them. Liberty Athletic Club Summer Day Camp offers swimming and tennis lessons, sports activities, creative projects and more, with each week revolving around a different theme. All campers have access to the rock wall, 3-story obstacle play park, and both indoor and outdoor water parks. There are full and half-day camps for kids ages 5-7 and 8-12, Preschool Camp for ages 3-5, Lightsaber Camp for ages 7-up, and Lacrosse Camp for children 7-12.

Enjoy a summer full of science fun at **U-M Museum of Natural History!** Mix and match morning and evening sessions with KidSport or Outdoor Adventures for a full day of fun. Each session is a new, interesting

Kids Summer Cooking Camps



Full participation • Ages 8-16
We provide campers with food education, basic cooking skills, kitchen safety, recipe reading, ingredient measuring and plate presentation while building kitchen confidence in a fun environment!

June 30-July 3 (AM and PM Camps):
Red, White & You! All American Classics

July 7-10 (AM and PM Camps):
Summer Sweets!

July 14-17 (AM Camp):
Bake Shop!

July 21-24 (AM Camp):
Cooking Sunrise to Sunset!

July 28-31 (AM and PM Camps):
Culinary Bootcamp!

Aug. 4-7 (AM and PM Camps):
Global Gourmet!

Aug. 11-14 (AM Camp):
Taste of Summer!



Ann Arbor Cooks!
A School for the Epicurious



- Water and Food Gathering
- Shelter Building
- Fire Making and Primitive Tools
- Animal Tracking, Signs and Habitat
- Plant Identification & Use (or avoidance)
- Craft Projects
- Culinary Adventures!



Blue Turtle
Nature Awareness
and Wilderness Skills
DAY CAMP

June 16-20 • June 23-27 • July 7-13

July 14-18 • July 21-25

For boys and girls ages 7 to 12

1/2 day camp • ages 4-6 • June 3-July 4 (AM sessions only)

Call 734.975.4448 • www.BlueTurtleNatureCamp.com

Register online at: www.annarborcooks.com
5060 Jackson Road • Ann Arbor, MI 48103 • 734.645.1030

& Activities



experience in this exciting 8-week camp. Topics include archaeology, paleontology, astronomy, forensic science, physics, and ecology. Boredom will be history this summer! Camps available for kids ages 6-11, and aftercare is available.

See your favorite board games in life-size form at the **YMCA Camp Copneconic Summer Camp**. Preview "O-Ba-G-Bers!" Camp Copneconic is full of exciting day and overnight camps your kids are sure to enjoy. Age-progressive activities and core programming are offered and developed around honesty, caring, respect, and responsibility. Family camping and other year round programs are available and led by the Y's positive and caring staff. Your kids will love exploring the outdoors on 700 acres of woods and meadows overlooking the majestic Lake Copneconic. Come by to tour the facility, meet directors and staff, and have all your questions answered.

The **Ann Arbor Art Center's Summer Creativity Camp** is designed to cultivate cognitive development through hands-on art projects that leverage collaboration, experimentation, critical thinking, and problem solving. Each day of camp is packed with fun and challenging activities that balance learning and play. Kids may design architecture of the future one week and conduct art-based experiments the next. No two weeks are alike! Pick from one of our many week-long, all-day sessions for kids ages 5-12. Register your collaborative cartoonists, playful futurists,

and design-savvy engineers today. Space is limited. Early morning drop-off and after-care available.

Keep your camper sharp this summer at **Raszer Sharp Tutoring Learning Studio**. Raszer Sharp provides services for students looking for academic support and a jumpstart on the coming school year in a fun and holistic fashion. Students will surprise themselves as they learn how to understand and master their classroom material while meeting their set academic goals. Hands-on teachers help improve the academic lives of students by tracking grades, checking in with future teachers, and will design the curriculum based on the needs of each individual mind.

It's never too early to think about summer! At the Jewish Community Center outdoor **Camp Raanana**, kids grade K-8 will explore new interests, build Jewish connections, gain self-confidence, and have fun playing outside. Camp takes place at Cedar Lake in Chelsea, part of the Waterloo Recreation area, the ideal location for swimming, boating, fishing, archery, climbing rope course, wall hiking, nature programming, pioneer skill building, and more. Raanana campers will also engage in age-appropriate elective activities (chugim), from photography, dance, to modern rocketry. Early bird discount offered.

Pick one, or pick a ton, because Ann Arbor is ready for your kids this summer!

Check out AnnArborObserver.com for more camp information.



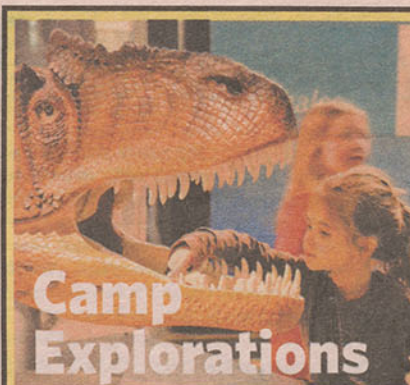
COME JOIN US THIS SUMMER TO IMPROVE YOUR FIELD HOCKEY SKILLS AND HAVE SOME FUN!

At Pinnacle our passion is field hockey. We strive to instill our love for the game in each of our participants.



Our summer program will be held at Pioneer High School. Programming is age appropriate for third graders and above. Each age group will meet with us once a week for a 1 1/2 hour session for 6 weeks. Cost is \$240.

Online registration will open on Monday, March 24th, 2014. Please visit our website pinnaclefieldhockey.com for details.



UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Museum of Natural History

1109 Geddes Avenue, Ann Arbor, MI 48109
tel 734.764.0478 fax 734.647.2767 www.ummnh.org

Enjoy a summer full of science fun!

We offer 8 weekly sessions (June 16-August 8). Each session is a fun, new experience. Topics include Archaeology, Paleontology, Astronomy, Forensic Science, Physics, and Ecology.

- **Morning sessions** are from 8 am - 12 noon and are for ages 8-12.
- **Afternoon sessions** are from 1-4 pm and are for ages 6-11.
- **Aftercare** is available until 6 pm.

Mix and match our AM and PM sessions with KidSport or Outdoor Adventures for full-day fun.

For more information: visit www.ummnh.org, email camp.explorations@umich.edu, or call 734.647.6421.

Early Childhood-Summer • Michigan Montessori Society Affiliated School

Oak Trails

Michigan's First Montessori School

6727 Warren Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48105

734.662.8016 • info@oaktrails.org

www.oaktrails.org



SUMMER CAMP June 23 - August 15

Our country location fosters a summer program that has a strong focus on nature and our environment including our abundant wildlife, organic gardening, solar ovens, and healthy cooking. In addition, we have art, music, games, and water play. Children ages 2 1/2 through 7 may join us for half days or full days including before and aftercare.



BE PART OF OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER



The JCC Early Childhood Center has been providing high quality preschool education to children 8 weeks through 5 years old for over 25 years. A low teacher/child ratio allows teachers to plan experiences that build on children's strengths and bring joy to exploring ideas. We foster a love of learning, a sense of justice, compassion, and caring for the welfare of others in all children.



YOUTH PROGRAMMING

The JCC's Youth Department has a variety of year-round offerings for youth and teens in grades K-8, including after-school programs, enrichment classes, school's out days, Kids' Night Out events, Camp Raanana and a new JCC Scouts program.



For more information about these programs, please contact the JCC at (734) 971-0990 or visit us online at www.jccannarbor.org.



JEWISH
COMMUNITY CENTER
OF GREATER ANN ARBOR

2935 Birch Hollow Drive
Ann Arbor, MI 48108

Music at Nightspots

by John Hinchey

Listings are based on information available at press time. Up-to-date schedules are posted at AnnArborObserver.com, but it may be advisable to call ahead. Times are noted only if they differ from the default showtimes listed in the description of each club.

The Arena

203 E. Washington 222-9999

This downtown sports bar features live music Mon. 10 p.m.-2 a.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Mon.: Laith Al-Saadi Trio.** An eclectic mix of roots Americana, classic rock, and blues, including many originals, by a jazz-tinged, jam-oriented trio led by local singer-guitarist Al-Saadi. With drummer Skeeto Valdez and bassist Jordan Schug.

The Ark

316 S. Main 761-1451

Michigan's leading showcase for American and international performers of all forms of traditional music. Shows almost every night at 8 p.m., Mon.-Sat., & 7:30 p.m., Sun. Unless otherwise noted, tickets are sold in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office (mutotix.com) and the Ark. **Mar. 1: Hoodang.** See review, above. Wry, pungent alt-country by this local ensemble led by singer-songwriter and guitarist David Rossiter that describes its influences as "English murder ballads, hardcore American country music, and careful-you'll-cut-yourself electric blues." \$15. **Mar. 2: "BreakFEST 2014."** A benefit for the St. Andrew's Episcopal Church breakfast program for the homeless. Headliners are **Al Petteway & Amy White**, a Grammy-winning Asheville-based husband-and-wife acoustic duo of singer-guitarists whose music draws on Celtic and Appalachian influences, and **Dakota Dave Hull**, a veteran acoustic ragtime guitarist whose repertoire also includes jazz, folk, blues, Western swing, and vintage pop. He's played with everyone from Doc Watson and Utah Phillips to Garrison Keillor. Opening act is **Jake & Mary**, a young Saline singer-songwriter duo that calls its music "rustic pop." \$30. 1:30 p.m. **Mar. 3 (sold out) & Mar. 4: Richard Thompson.** A former lead guitarist with the legendary English folk-rock group Fairport Convention, Thompson has since established himself as one of England's most compelling and original singer-songwriters. Opening act is his son, singer-songwriter **Teddy Thompson**. Comparing Teddy to his father, *Uncut* reviewer Nigel Williamson, calling him "a writer of precocious talent," says that "his voice is sweeter, his songs more romantic, and Neil Finn would be a closer reference point." \$40 & \$65. **Mar. 5: Vance Gilbert.** African American singer-songwriter from Cambridge, Massachusetts, who, according to *Boston Globe* reviewer Craig Harris, sings "in a soulful, Al Jarreau-like voice, accompanying himself with heavily syncopated acoustic guitar melodies." \$15. **Mar. 7: The RFD Boys.** Authentic bluegrass by these longtime local favorites who have appeared in numerous festivals and on the cover of *Bluegrass Unlimited* magazine. Their shows blend top-notch musicianship with funny between-songs dialogue. They have several recordings, including *Live and Unrehearsed*, a 1994 Ark performance. \$11 at the door only. **Mar. 8: Dick Siegel.** This veteran local singer-songwriter is an immensely gifted and versatile composer whose songs offer all sorts of immediate musical and lyrical pleasures, both serious and comic, as well as a resonant staying power. His live repertoire features material from his nationally acclaimed 2002 CD *A Little Pain Never Hurts*, his pugnacious 2003 EP *Fighting for King George*, early hits like "Angelo's" and "When the Sumac Is on Fire"—one of the best songs about Michigan ever written—and new songs. \$20. **Mar. 9: Catie Curtis.** A highly regarded singer-songwriter from Maine who lived in Ann Arbor for a few years in the early 90s, Curtis writes engaging, down-to-earth songs about the pleasures and tragedies of ordinary life. Opening act is **Jenna Lindbo**, an Asheville-based acoustic folk-rock singer-songwriter. \$20. **Mar. 11: Eileen Ivers.** This celebrated Irish American fiddle virtuoso is touring with her current band, Immigrant Sun, to showcase material from her forthcoming album, *Beyond the Bog Road*, a collection that explores the tangled Irish roots of Americana music. \$22. **Mar. 12: Diana Lawrence.** This U-M grad is a Chicago-based folk-rock singer-songwriter-pianist whose quirky, jazz-tinged music has provoked comparisons to the likes of Fiona Apple and Regina Spektor. \$15. **Mar. 13: Kim Richey.** Sweet-voiced singer-songwriter from southwestern Ohio whose music blends country themes with the irony and attitude of modern rock and the strong melodic hooks of classic pop. Her songs have been recorded by the likes of Mary Chapin Carpenter and Trisha Yearwood. \$20. **Mar. 14: Timothy Monger.** Engaging local singer-songwriter-guitarist from the Great Lakes Myth Society

Hoodang

Consummate country

If you've ever visited one of Nashville's many honky-tonks, you'll find a certain sort of musician for whom the classic twang of country music comes absolutely naturally. For them, turning out tunes for hours on end isn't some carefully arranged, long-rehearsed set; it's a basic daily instinct and their professional calling. Though the men in Hoodang are firmly based in Ann Arbor, they're undoubtedly that sort of musician. With excellent musicianship, thoughtful songwriting, and a natural aptitude for Americana, the quartet does justice to its genre.

It's easy to gravitate to front man and lead creative force David Rossiter in describing Hoodang, but it'd be criminal to overlook the excellent players backing him. Ralph McKee's bass and John Crawford's drums form a rock-solid rhythm section. Laid-back and unshowy, they lay down solid groundwork for the rest of the group. Dave Keeney's guitar work is more conspicuous, and rightfully so. Keeney executes everything from plunking rhythms to nimble rockabilly-style licks to shimmering pedal steel leads with the same masterful ease. Nobody in this group really looks like he's working hard; even when they string three consecutive hour-long

sets together, this all seems second nature to them.

Heading up the group is singer, songwriter, and rhythm guitarist Rossiter. Hoodang's musical element is truly rich, but Rossiter's perceptive, well-drawn lyrics make the band more than just a particularly accomplished group of honky-tonkers. Rossiter is frequently likened to Steve Earle (whose "Texas Eagle" Hoodang has covered), and the comparison sticks, given Rossiter's well-worn vocal tone and the similarly well-worn characters in his songs. There's a story to each of Rossiter's lyrical protagonists, and it's usually a sad one. In the classic country mode, Rossiter is a chronicler of folks who are down on their luck and trying to fight their way up. Whether he's telling the tale of a truck driver or a condemned man on his way to the electric chair, the personalities in his songs are engaging and the details evocative.

Like his bandmates, Rossiter isn't particularly showy onstage (although he banters freely and warmly between songs). But he's been the focal point for Hoodang for over a decade. Rossiter formed the band in 2003 with bassist Rich Rickman, and while Rick-



J. ADRIAN WYLIE

man and other backing musicians have come and gone, Hoodang has remained Rossiter's baby. He doesn't come off as a diva, though; he's got a fine band to support his efforts, and he knows it.

Hoodang recently released its second album, *Blissfield*, following it up with a typically busy schedule of area shows, including one at the Ark on March 1. In a town where folk is a lot bigger than country, and at a time when the label "country" itself refers primarily to an inauthentic corporate product, Hoodang's thoughtful, accomplished Americana is truly valuable. We're fortunate to have them this side of the Mason-Dixon Line.

—Patrick Dunn

whose pop-rock Americana fuses high lonesome tunes with evocative tales drawn from ordinary life. \$15. **Mar. 16: Carrie Newcomer.** Acclaimed singer-songwriter and dynamic performer from northern Indiana whose songs explore the nourishments of the spirit in everyday life with a gritty realism and soft-spoken charm. A stylish singer with a dark, smoky alto, she uses a honky-tonk drawl and a bluesy purr to give her songs a seasoned toughness and a seductive sensuality that's tempered by her Quaker roots. \$20. **Mar. 18: Jeffrey Foucault.** Wisconsin-based American roots-music singer-songwriter known for wry, deftly poetic lyrics and rich-toned fingerstyle guitar accompaniment. His work has won praise from the likes of Greg Brown and Chris Smither, and *No Depression* calls him "the bard of small-town anywhere." \$15. **Mar. 19: Jesse Dee.** Boston-bred R&B and soul singer-songwriter and guitarist whose music draws on the influence of classic 60s soul, 50s doo-wop, and postwar R&B powerhouses like Etta James. \$15. **Mar. 20: The Blind Boys of Alabama.** Founded in the 1940s at Alabama's Talladega Institute for the Deaf and Blind, this chorus is still one of the most celebrated African American gospel singing groups, blending intense, straining vocals and extreme stagecraft with meltingly sweet harmonies. \$35. **Mar. 21: Riders in the Sky.** This innovative, often comical Nashville-based quartet of ace musicians has revitalized the genre of the cowboy song. Inspired by the 1930s group the Sons of the Pioneers, the quartet includes former Herb David staffer "Ranger" Doug Green. They specialize in elaborate harmonizations of cowboy folk songs, western ballads, and sentimental Hollywood versions of the real thing. Opening act is **Riders in the Sky** bassist Too Slim in his "Say No More, It's Freddy LaBour" songwriting persona, with comic songs like "Who Offed Hoffa" and "Big Mac (Not the Burger but the Bridge)." \$25. **Mar. 22: Ben Daniels Band.** Chelsea Americana folk-rock quintet led by singer-songwriter and guitarist Daniels, whose influences range from Robert Johnson to Dylan to Jack White. \$15. **Mar. 23: Junior Brown.** This acclaimed honky-tonk singer-songwriter from Austin, TX, plays 6-string and steel guitar as well as his own guitar hybrid, the "guit-steel." A longtime cult favorite who first gained the attention of mainstream country fans with his hilarious 1996 novelty hit "My Wife Thinks You're Dead," Brown sings in a pleasantly resonant baritone that suggests a somewhat grittier and slier Ernest Tubbs, and his original songs are known for a lyrical wit and cleverness that's almost as dazzling as his guitar work. \$25. **Mar. 24: Cabinet.** Scranton-area sextet whose music infuses traditional bluegrass with *American Beauty*-era Grateful Dead and other rock-based Ameri-

cana flavors. \$15. **Mar. 25: Jake Clemons.** Soul-drenched rock 'n' roll by an ensemble led by this singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist, the nephew of the late E Street Band saxophonist Clarence Clemons. FREE. All encouraged to bring nonperishable food or money to donate to Food Gatherers. **Mar. 26: Open Stage.** All acoustic performers invited. Fifteen acts are selected randomly from those who sign up to perform 8 minutes (or 2 songs) each. The most talented and popular Open Stage performers are offered their own evenings at the Ark. \$3 (members & students, \$2). **Mar. 27: Stolen Silver.** Sextet led by the duo of veteran Chicago singer-songwriters Levi Britton and Dan Myers. Their music ranges from indie folk and Americana to pop-rock and exploratory soundtrack pieces where the spaces in the songs are as important as the narrative. \$15. **Mar. 28: Willie Nile.** Veteran rock 'n' roll singer-songwriter whom *Uncut* dubbed "a one-man Clash" and whose fans include Lucinda Williams, Bono, the late Lou Reed, and filmmaker Jim Jarmusch. \$15. **Mar. 29: Brian Vander Ark.** This West Michigan singer-songwriter, the raspy-voiced lead singer of the popular dance-rock band Verve Pipe, is known for his earnest, reflective, engagingly melodic explorations of the themes of family, love, and loss. Opening act is self-styled "jazz-tinged urban folk soul" singer-songwriter **Jen Chapin**, the daughter of the late Harry Chapin. \$15. **Mar. 30: Noah Gunderson.** Seattle pop-folk singer-songwriter whose recent solo debut, *Ledges*, is a collection of songs that—in a manner reminiscent of Leonard Cohen—commingle the sensual and the sexual with the spiritual. Opening act is **Doug Paisley**, an alt-country singer-songwriter from Toronto. \$12.

The B-Side

310 E. Washington 214-9995

This all-ages venue in the Neutral Zone teen center (with a side alley entrance off Fifth Ave.) features a mix of touring, local, and teen bands, usually Sat., 7-11 p.m. Cover, dancing. **Mar. 8: "LIVE on Washington" Dance Party.** With bands & DJs TBA. A benefit for the Neutral Zone "LIVE on Washington" outdoor teen music and arts festival held in May. **Mar. 21: "Rock Show."** With local teen bands TBA. **Mar. 28: "S.O.A.R. Benefit."** With local teen poets and musicians. A benefit for the SafeHouse Teen Voice education and outreach efforts.

Bar Louie

401 E. Liberty 794-3000

This downtown tavern features live music Wed. 8-11:30 p.m. & Sat. 9:30 p.m.-1 a.m. Also, salsa dancing with a DJ on Fri. 10:30 p.m.-2 a.m. No cover, dancing. **Every**

Wed.: Laith Al-Saadi. See Black Pearl. **Mar. 1: TBA.** **Mar. 8: Dan Dahsoulman & Jake Lives Band.** Local septet fronted by vocalist Dan "Dahsoulman" Carter that plays a mix of R&B, soul, and blues. **Mar. 15: Brett Mitchell & the Giant Ghost.** Midland pop-rock band led by Mitchell, a singer-songwriter and drummer whom *Grand Rapids Press* music critic John Sinkevics calls "the new millennium's version of Marshall Crenshaw." **Mar. 22: The Canastas.** Local quintet that plays vintage jump blues, rockabilly, and rock 'n' roll. **Mar. 29: The HouseRockers.** See Mash.

Bigalora

3050 Washtenaw 971-2442

This pizzeria in the Arbor Hills shopping center features live jazz, Wed. 9 p.m.-midnight. No cover, no dancing. **Every Wed.: Ron Brooks Trio.** Mainstream bebop-rooted jazz by this trio led by veteran local bassist Brooks. With pianist Tad Weed and drummer George Davidson.

The Black Pearl

302 S. Main 222-0400

This seafood and martini bar features live music Tues. & Wed. 8-11 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Mar. 4: Laith Al-Saadi.** Soulful acoustic rock and blues covers and originals by this local singer-guitarist. **Mar. 5: Beth Stalker & Jim Rawlings.** An eclectic mix of styles, from blues, R&B, and jazz to rock and country, by the Detroit Music Award-winning duo of singer-songwriter Stalker and songwriter-guitarist Rawlings. **Mar. 11: Laith Al-Saadi.** See above. **Mar. 12: Lucas Paul.** Local pop-rock singer-songwriter whose influences range from the Beatles to Dave Matthews and Kings of Leon. **Mar. 18: Jody Raffoul.** Canadian pop-rock singer-songwriter whose music has been described as a hybrid of Bono's and Bruce Springsteen's styles. He is joined by backup vocalist and guitarist **Wes Buckley.** **Mar. 19: Garret Bielaniec & Billy Raffoul.** Classic rock and blues covers by this singer-guitarist duo. **Mar. 25: Laith Al-Saadi.** See above. **Mar. 26: Allison Albrecht.** 13-year-old Detroit singer-songwriter whose music blends folk, pop, and country.

The Blind Pig

208 S. First St. 996-8555

This local music club features live music 4 (Wed.-Sat.) or more nights a week, with a varied assortment of local and out-of-town rock 'n' roll, blues, reggae, and dance bands, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m. (unless otherwise noted). Also, occasional early shows, usually 7-10 p.m. Karaoke on Mon.; closed most Sun. & Tues. If there's an

opening act, the headliner usually goes on stage between 11:30 p.m. and midnight. Cover, dancing. If advance tickets are sold, they are available at the 8 Ball Saloon (below the club) and at etix.com. **Mar. 1: Nickle P.** Popular soul-inflected hip-hop singer and rapper from Milford. Opening acts are Detroit hip-hop MC **The King James Dillinger**, the Raleigh-bred, Detroit-based hip-hop MC and turntablist **Mr. Demented**, local hip-hop singer-songwriter **Mike Burner**, and local hip-hop DJ **Dick Jones**. **Mar. 5: "Loquacious."** A showcase of local and area hip-hop MCs, including **Phyme Rhyme Boss**, **Gen Pop**, **Obie Iyoha**, **GQ**, **J-Preme**, **Rill III**, and **JTubbs**. **Mar. 6: JD McPherson.** Chicago-based straight-ahead rock 'n' roll trio led by McPherson, an singer-guitarist from Broken Arrow (OK) whose influences range from Little Richard and James Brown to David Byrne and Joe Strummer. Opening act is WCBN rockabilly DJ **Del Villarreal**. Advance tickets: \$15. **Mar. 7: Ann Arbor Soul Club.** Classic soul music by the local DJ duo of Brad Hales and Robert Wells. **Mar. 8: That 1 Guy.** The stage name of Mike Silverman, a Berkeley-based classically trained bassist who has created his own instrument, the "Magic Pipe," which his website describes as a "system of electronically wired steel plumbing, shaped somewhat like a harp, with a thick bass string wired from top to bottom and a hole that billows smoke during the climax of his live shows." Advance tickets: \$12 (\$14 at the door). **Mar. 11: Snow Tha Product.** All ages admitted. The name of Claudia Feliciano, a Mexican-American hip-hop rapper and singer known for her rapid-fire delivery and bilingual performances. Opening acts are **Caskey**, an Orlando hip-hop MC, and **Bizarre**, a Detroit hip-hop MC who's a member of the hip-hop group D12. Advance tickets: \$14. 8 p.m.-midnight. **Mar. 12: We Are Augustines.** NYC-based duo that plays soulful, introspective indie pop-rock. Opening act is **My Goodness**, a Seattle-based blues-inflected rock 'n' roll guitar-and-drums duo. Advance tickets: \$15. **Mar. 13: Fifth and Main.** Rochester (MI) indie rock sextet known for its literate lyrics and striking instrumental and vocal harmonies. Opening acts are the Detroit-area pop-punk power trio **Stereo Sound**, the Iowa City postpunk powerpop quartet **You're Too Kind**, the Detroit pop band **Gosh Pith**, and the Flint alternative rock quartet **The Heart As Is**. **Mar. 14: TBA.** **Mar. 15: The Bang!** Dance party with this local DJ collective that plays garage and 70s rock. **Mar. 19: TBA.** **Mar. 20: Miniature Tigers.** Brooklyn pop quartet whose music blends elements of indie rock, synthpop, and dream pop. Opening acts are **Bear Hands**, a Brooklyn postpunk rock quartet, and **Total Slacker**, a Brooklyn pop-rock garage quartet that calls its music "slimegaze." Advance tickets: \$12. **Mar. 21: TBA.** **Mar. 22: Electric Six.** Energetic, irreverent guitar-based rock by this widely acclaimed Detroit quintet whose music has been described as a "bizarre genetic splicing of punk, new wave, disco, and arena rock." Opening acts are **Yip Deceiver**, an Athens (GA) postpunk electronic dance duo of former Of Montreal members Davey Pierce and Nicolas Dobbratz, and **Alexis**, a Grand Rapids synth-pop duo. Advance tickets: \$15. **Mar. 23: T. Mills.** L.A.-based hip-hop/pop MC whose songs blend rapping and singing. Opening act is **Mod Sun**, a Bloomington (MN) hip-hop MC who was named by *Rolling Stone* as one of the top 16 unsigned artists in the world. Advance tickets: \$18 (\$20 at the door). **Mar. 24: Ron Pope.** Roots pop-rock by this NYC-based, Georgia-bred singer-songwriter whose music ranges from guitar-fueled anthems to introspective ballads. His new CD, *Calling off the Dogs*, is a collection of atmospheric, moody songs exploring the course of a couple's relationship. Opening act is **Von Grey**, an all-female alt-folk Americana quartet from Atlanta known for its delicious vocal harmonies. Advance tickets: \$15. **Mar. 25: Johnette Napolitano.** Solo performance by the frontwoman of the influential 80s alternative rock band Concrete Blonde. Advance tickets: \$25. **Mar. 26: Sundy Best.** Eastern Kentucky duo whose music retools the classic late-70s rock of Tom Petty and Bob Seger with a country- and bluegrass-inflected sensibility. Advance tickets: \$7. **Mar. 27: Slaughterhouse.** All ages admitted. Hip-hop supergroup whose members include the rappers Crooked I, Joe Budden, Joell Ortiz, and Royce 5'9". Tonight the band celebrates the release of *Glass House*, its 3rd album on Eminem's Shady label. Advance tickets: \$25. 8 p.m.-midnight. **Mar. 28: TBA.** **Mar. 29: Remix Artist Collective (RAC).** Synthpop ensemble founded by Portland-based Portuguese artist André Allen Anjos. Opening acts are **Panama Wedding**, a NYC pop-rock quintet, and **Ghost Beach**, a NYC 80s-flavored synthpop duo that just released its debut CD, *Blonde*. Advance tickets: \$15 (\$17 at the door).

The Blue Nile
221 E. Washington 998-4746
This downtown restaurant features live music, Fri. & Sat. 6-10 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Fri. & Sat.: Louis Johnson.** Jazz standards and New Ethiopian jazz by this local pianist and saxophonist. On Saturdays he is joined by bassist Will Austin, and other friends TBA.

The Cavern Club
210 S. First St. 913-8890
This downtown basement club in the Celebration Cellars banquet space features occasional live music, 10 p.m.-2 a.m. There is also sometimes music in the street-level Millennium Club and the 2nd-floor Circus Bar & Billiards. Also, karaoke in the Circus, Wed.-Sat. 10 p.m.-2 a.m. **Mar. 14: Killer Flamigos.** Rock 'n' roll covers and originals by this popular veteran band from Dearborn. In the Millennium Club.

Conor O'Neill's
318 S. Main 665-2968
Downtown Irish pub with live music Sun. 7:30-10 p.m. and Tues., Thurs., & Sat. 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., and a DJ on Fri. 10 p.m.-2 a.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Sun.: Traditional Irish Session.** All invited to join or listen to an instrumental jam session. The session begins at 4 p.m. on Mar. 16. **Every Tues.: Shaun Garth Walker.** Local singer-guitarist with an eclectic, wide-ranging repertoire. **Mar. 1: Joshua & Jeremy Sprague.** An eclectic mix of rock covers by these local brothers. **Mar. 6: Don & Dickie.** Duo of guitarist Don Sicheneder and banjoist Rich Delcamp from the popular local roots music sextet Dragon Wagon. **Mar. 8: The Takeaways.** Local band led by Shaun Garth Walker, a singer-guitarist with an eclectic, wide-ranging repertoire. **Mar. 13: Bruno's Boys.** Traditional Irish songs of drinking and rebellion, accompanied on a wide array of instruments, by this Detroit-area duo. **Mar. 14: Shaun Garth Walker.** See above. **Mar. 15: "St. Practice Day."** See St. Patrick's Day below. 11 a.m.-2 a.m. **Mar. 17: "St. Patrick's Day."** This daylong celebration features Irish ceili dancers, bagpipers, and a traditional Irish music ensemble, along with **The Diggers**, a Detroit band that plays traditional Irish ballads and drinking songs, and **Bruno's Boys** and **Shaun Garth Walker** (see above). 7 a.m.-2 a.m. **Mar. 20: Don & Dickie.** See above. **Mar. 22: Brett Mitchell & the Giant Ghost.** Midland pop-rock band led by Mitchell, a singer-songwriter and drummer whom *Grand Rapids Press* music critic John Sinkevics calls "the new millennium's version of Marshall Crenshaw." **Mar. 27: Mossey Moran.** Traditional singer from Ireland. **Mar. 29: Michael May & the Messarounds.** See Mash.

Crazy Wisdom Tea Room
114 S. Main 665-9468
Tea room above Crazy Wisdom Bookstore features live music, Fri. & Sat. 8:30-10:30 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Mar. 1: Ruth & Max Bloomquist.** Acoustic Americana by this Muskegon husband-and-wife singer-songwriter duo whose 2011 CD, *Turn Back a Page*, reached #5 on the Folk Radio Airplay chart. **Mar. 7: Kevin Meisel.** Local folk-rock singer-songwriter who specializes in narrative ballads. **Mar. 8: Bill Edwards.** Local country singer-songwriter, 1989 winner of the Billboard Country Songwriting Contest, whose songs have been covered by the likes of Lee Roy Parnell and T. Graham Brown. **Mar. 14: Dan Hazlett.** This Detroit-area singer-songwriter and guitarist plays blues-, R&B-, folk-, and jazz-influenced originals on topics that range from the outlandish to the sublime. **Mar. 15: John Churchville.** Local tabla player, accompanied by several musical friends, who plays Indian classical, light classical, fusion, and folk music. **Mar. 21: Charlie Mosbrook.** Popular pop-folk singer-songwriter from Cleveland who accompanies himself on guitar, harmonica, banjo, and assorted other instruments. Many of the songs on his latest CD, *Little by Little*, deal with an injury that has left him with a limited ability to walk and took a substantial amount of touch sensation from his hands. **Mar. 22: Luti Erbeznik & Bobby Pennock.** Double bill. Erbeznik is a singer-songwriter whose music draws on rock, classical, and Yugoslav folk music influences and who sings in a voice that's been compared to Nick Drake, and Pennock is a Plymouth folk-rock singer-songwriter whose style draws its influences from Paul Simon and Harry Chapin, with a helping of the Beatles thrown in for zest. **Mar. 28: Tom Kastle.** Veteran singer-songwriter from Madison whose songs are known for their strong sense of story, often rooted in the world of the Great Lakes and other maritime themes. **Mar. 29: Dave Boutette.** Veteran local folk-rock singer-guitarist whose genial songs about the small ups and downs of ordinary life draw on a range of influences from Chuck Berry to Paul Westerberg.

Creekside Grill and Bar
5827 Jackson Rd. 827-2737
The intimate basement bar in this restaurant in Scio Township features occasional live music. Cover, dancing. **Mar. 30: II-VI Orchestra.** Veteran local big band, led by saxophonist David Swain, that plays late-1930s swing and 1940s R&B. With vocalist Patty O'Connor. Tonight's program focuses on the music of the **Clayton-Hamilton Jazz Orchestra**, a popular L.A.-based contemporary big band. 6:30-9 p.m.

The Elks Lodge
220 Sunset 761-7172
This basement venue in the James L. Crawford Elks Lodge rec room features soul food and live jazz, blues,

& rock Thurs.-Sat. 7-10 p.m. Also, DJs, Fri. & Sat. 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Dancing, usually no cover except for DJ shows. Members and guests welcome. **Every Thurs.: The Glimpses Duo/Trio/Quartet/Quintet.** Modern jazz and improvised music by a variable cast of local musicians led by alto, tenor, and baritone saxophonist **Dan Bennett**. **Every Sat.: TBA.** **Mar. 7: TBA.** **Mar. 14: Jordan Otto Quintet.** Straight-ahead and Latin jazz by this local ensemble led by drummer Otto. With saxophonist Maria Navedo, trumpeter Walter Cano, and pianist Nathan Flanders. **Mar. 21: Closed.** **Mar. 28: RHYTA.** Balkan music with a New Orleans twist by this local brass band. With trombonist Bethanni Grecynski, trumpeter Ross Huff, saxophonists Eric Schweizer and Molly Jones, sousaphonist Joe Fee, snare drummer Xavier Verna, and Drew Schmieding on Balkan drums.

Guy Hollerin's
3600 Plymouth Rd. 769-9800
The restaurant in the North Campus Holiday Inn features music on Sat. & occasional Fri., 8 p.m.-midnight. If tickets are available in advance, they are sold at the restaurant. Cover, dancing. **Mar. 1: Lady Sunshine & the X Band.** Popular local gospel-flavored blues band led by Lady Sunshine, a fiery, rich-voiced singer whose style blends elements of Aretha Franklin, Koko Taylor, and Denise LaSalle. **Mar. 8: Steve Nardella Rock 'n' Roll Trio.** Ann Arbor's most passionate and compelling roots-rocker performs fiercely cathartic, blues-drenched reworkings of rock 'n' roll and rockabilly classics and obscure gems, along with some authentic Muddy Waters and John Lee Hooker blues. **Mar. 15: The Terraplanes.** Local band led by singer-guitarist Jerry Mack that plays a mix of house-rocking blues, uptown swing, soulful R&B, and roots rock. **Mar. 22: Madcat Midnight Blues Journey.** New local quartet led by 2 veteran virtuosos, nationally renowned harmonica wiz Peter Madcat Ruth and pedal steel guitarist Drew "Captain Midnight" Howard. With bassist Mark Schrock and drummer Michael Shimmie. Its repertoire includes obscure blues tunes, folk and jazz melodies, and original compositions. **Mar. 29: Bruce Katz Band.** Funky, greasy, blues-drenched, New Orleans-inspired R&B by a band led by this Hammond B-3 organist from Boston who teaches a course on the blues at the prestigious Berklee School of Music. "No one would mistake Katz's blues for jazz, but there are elements of jazz to be found on [his 2003 CD] *Mississippi Moan*, in that it occasionally features long solos and sophisticated harmonies not traditionally found on blues albums," says *Bluesreviews* critic Don Fluckinger.

The Habitat Lounge
3050 Jackson Rd. 665-3636
The lounge at Weber's Inn features dance bands Tues.-Thurs. 8:45 p.m.-12:30 a.m. and Fri. & Sat. 8:45 p.m.-1:30 a.m., along with jazz Sun. 7-11 p.m. Also, a DJ Mon., 7 p.m.-midnight, and solo pianists Tues.-Sun., 6-8:45 p.m. Dancing, no cover. **Every Sun.: James Cornelison Quartet.** Jazz originals and standards by this U-M music student ensemble led by electric guitarist Cornelison. **Mar. 1: Soultice.** Hard-driving horn-fueled funk dance band from East Lansing. **Mar. 4-6: Acoustic Rewind.** 80s and 90s pop covers by this Detroit acoustic duo. **Mar. 7 & 8: Dan Rafferty Band.** Popular 8-piece Detroit pop dance band. **Mar. 11-13: Green-Eyed Soul.** Windsor pop trio fronted by vocalists Melissa Danese and Fallon Deluca. **Mar. 14: Jerry Ross Band.** 7-piece Detroit show band. **Mar. 15: The Breakers.** Veteran local classic rock band that plays 60s-80s covers. **Mar. 18-20: Scotty Alexander Duo.** Pop-rock covers by everyone from Elton John and Lionel Richie to Matchbox Twenty and Kings of Leon by this duo led by Brighton singer-pianist Alexander. **Mar. 21 & 22: The Front Men.** Detroit vintage-rock band. **Mar. 25-27: Slice.** East Lansing pop dance quartet. **Mar. 28 & 29: Phoenix Theory.** Detroit Top 40 dance band featuring members of Scoot Magoo and 50 Amp Fuse.

LIVE
102 S. First St. 623-1443
This lounge features live music Fri. happy hour 6:30-9 p.m. and occasional evenings. Also, DJs, Mon. & Thurs.-Sat. 10 p.m.-2 a.m. No cover (except Fri. & Sat. after 11 p.m.), dancing. **Mar. 7: Ross Huff Quintet.** Groove band standards and originals by this local jazz fusion ensemble led by Macpodz trumpeter Huff. With guitarist James Cornelison, keyboardist Hugh Little, bassist John Sperendi, and drummer Julian Allen. 6:30-9 p.m. **Mar. 14: Mike Smith & the Cadillac Cowboys.** Veteran local Western swing and classic country band led by singer-guitarist Smith. 6:30-9 p.m. **Mar. 21: George Bedard & the Kingpins.** Superfine honky-tonk dance tunes from swing to vintage blues, country, rockabilly, and early rock 'n' roll classics, with some memorable originals penned by guitar genius Bedard. With drummer Rich Dishman and bassist Randy Tessier. Bedard's tasty 2011 all-instrumental CD, *Pickin' Apart the Past*, includes "Minor Swing '65," his surf-music adaptation of a Django Reinhardt tune, and he has a new live CD, *Further On*, that's highlighted by a show-stopping rendition of "Hawaiian Boogie." 6:30-9 p.m. **Mar. 28: Drivin' Sideways.** Veteran local band fueled by Pontiac Pete Ferguson's alternately soulful and ornery vocals. Their country-based repertoire still

Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase
314 East Liberty Ann Arbor

If you live to laugh, life is here

Mike Green
March 1
FOX Sports Detroit
New York Comedy Expo
"Best Clean Comedian" - Gilda's Laugh Festival

Al Jackson
March 6 7 8
NBC's "Last Comic Standing"
FX's "Legit"
"Officially Amazing" BBC
Comedy Central "Live at Gotham"
NickMom's "Breaking Dad"
"Live at Gotham"
MTV - Current TV - and tons more!!

Maria Bamford
SUNDAY - MARCH 9 - ONE NIGHT ONLY!
Comedy Central's "The Sarah Silverman Program"
John Oliver's "New York Stand Up Show"
"Arrested Development"
"Late Nite /Conan"
"The Tonight Show w/Leno"
"Comedy Central Presents"
"Premium Blend"
"USO Tour" "Tough Crowd"
YOU KNOW WHO SHE IS - DON'T MISS HER!!!

L.A. Hardy
March 13 14 15
MTV - VH1
"ABC's According to Jim"
the movie "Guess Who"
BET's ComicView
Indie films such as "China Dolls"
"Footsteps" & "The Good Fight"

Nick Gaza
March 20 21 22
"The Drew Carey Show"
"Malcolm in the Middle"
"Becker" - "The Biggest Loser"

Joe DeVito
March 27 28 29
CBS "The Late Late Show"
NBC's "Last Comic Standing"
"Chelsea Lately"
"Not Just Another Cable News Show"
BBC's "The World Stands Up"
FOX News Channel's "The Red Eye"
Animal Planet's "The A List"
Comedy Central's "Live at Gotham"
This is a club recommended show!!

SHOWTIMES
Wed. & Thurs. - 8pm
Wed. night is normally Open Mic Comedy Jamm
Fri. & Sat. - 8 & 10:30pm

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1952 South Industrial Highway, Suite G

Music at Nightspots

features lots of classic honky-tonk, but they also cover everyone from Chuck Berry and Johnny Burnette to the Beatles and James Brown. With guitarist George Bedard, bassist Pat Prouty, drummer Mark Newbound, and keyboardist Jim King. 6:30-9 p.m.

Mash

211 E. Washington 222-4095

This lounge in the basement of the Blue Tractor tavern features live music Thurs.-Sat., and occasional other nights, 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Occasional weekend happy hour music, 6-9 p.m. DJs on Wed., 11 p.m.-1 a.m. Dancing, no cover. **Every Wed.: Open Mike Night.** All musicians invited. **Mar. 1: Laura Rain.** Solo performance by this Detroit blues and soul singer. 6-9 p.m. **Mar. 1: The HouseRockers.** Local party quintet that plays 60s rock, blues, and soul. **Mar. 6: Laura Rain & the Caesars.** An intense fusion of funk, soul, and blues by this Detroit quintet fronted by vocalist Rain. **Mar. 7: "Abud: A Bard."** The stage name of James Abud, metro Detroit singer-songwriter and guitarist whose one-man shows blend covers of jazz, pop, and Broadway classics with folk-fusion originals that reflect an eclectic mix of influences, from Arabic and American folk music to rock, jazz, classical, bluegrass, and musical theater. The music is interspersed with zesty jokes and hilarious tales of life as a musician and music researcher. 6-9 p.m. **Mar. 7: The Chris Canas Blues Revolution.** Detroit blues band fronted by young blues vocalist and virtuoso guitarist Canas. **Mar. 8: Robert Johnson.** Solo acoustic folk and blues by this Northville singer-guitarist. 6-9 p.m. **Mar. 8: Broken Arrow Blues Band.** Detroit-area blues band. **Mar. 13: Billy Mack & the Juke Joint Johnnies.** Local roots-rock quartet, led by former Starlight Drifters singer-guitarist Mack, whose repertoire includes originals and rockabilly, early rock 'n' roll, western swing, and hillbilly pop covers. **Mar. 14: Michael May Duo.** Duo led by local blues and blues-rock singer-harpist May. 6-9 p.m. **Mar. 14: The HouseRockers.** See above. **Mar. 15: Mike Vial.** Howell pop-rock singer-songwriter. 6-9 p.m. **Mar. 15: The Bluescasters.** Intense, low-down blues and blues-rock by this veteran local quartet. **Mar. 20: The John Rhoades Trio.** Jazz-inflected blues by this Detroit-area trio led by singer-guitarist Rhoades, the former guitarist in Motor City Josh's band. **Mar. 21: TBA.** 6-9 p.m. **Mar. 21: The Canastas.** See Bar Louie. **Mar. 22: Abigail Stauffer.** Local singer-songwriter with a rich, resonant alto voice who's known for her piercing, emotionally direct pop-folk and pop-rock songs. She released her debut CD, *Alone to Dream*, in 2011, and she recently completed her sophomore effort. 6-9 p.m. **Mar. 22: Nobody's Business.** Redford blues and blues-rock band. **Mar. 27: Michael May & the Messarounds.** Jazz-inflected blues and blues-rock by this veteran local quartet led by vocalist and blues harpist May. **Mar. 28: Zander Michigan.** The stage name of Detroit pop-folk singer-songwriter Zander Melidis. 6-9 p.m. **Mar. 28: The Chris Canas Blues Revolution.** See above. **Mar. 29: Matt Boylan.** Covers and originals by this local pop-folk singer-guitarist. 6-9 p.m. **Mar. 22: Cetan Clawson.** Monroe blues-rock band.

Melange Subterranean Bistro

314 S. Main 222-0202

The lounge in this downtown restaurant features live music Thurs., 8-11 p.m. Also, DJs Fri. & Sat., 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Dancing, no cover. **Every Thurs.: Doug Horn Trio.** Classic jazz from the American songbook by this ensemble led by local alto saxophonist Horn. With various drop-in guests TBA.

The Necto

516 E. Liberty 994-5436

This popular dance club features local and national DJs 6 nights a week, Mon.-Sat., 9 p.m.-2 a.m. Also, occasional live shows. Cover, dancing.

Old Town

122 W. Liberty 662-9291

This downtown corner bar features live music Sun. & occasional other nights, 8-10 p.m. No dancing, no cover. The performers are usually accompanied by various drop-in friends. **Mar. 2: Paledave.** Local indie rock band led by Dave Buehrer, a singer-songwriter whose influences include Neil Young, Fleetwood Mac, and Tom Petty. **Mar. 9: Kevin & the Glen Levens.** Local quartet whose eclectic repertoire ranges from traditional Irish music to rockabilly, bluegrass, novelty songs, and roots-rock originals. **Mar. 16: Corndaddy.** Local alt-country band led by singer-songwriters Kevin Brown and Jud Branam whose music filters early 70s country-rock through the influences of bluegrass, power pop, and British Invasion bombast. **Mar. 23: The Webbs.** Detroit-based acoustic postpunk old-time music/bluegrass hybrid quartet. With the husband-and-wife duo of vocalist Andie Webb and bassist Tracy Webb, guitarist Robert Rasmussen, and the Chelsea-bred postpunk honky-tonk musician Scotty Karate on banjo. **Mar. 30: The Tone Farmers.** See Wolverine.

Oz's Music Environment

1920 Packard 662-8283

This storefront next to Oz's music store features live music most Tues. 7:30-9:30 p.m. Cover by donation, no dancing. **Mar. 4: "Songwriters Open Mike."** All songwriters invited. Hosted by Jim Novak. **Mar. 25: "Ukulele Jam."** Musicians of all ability levels invited.

The Ravens Club

207 S. Main 214-0400

This downtown bar & grill features live music, Sun. 8-11 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Sun.: Heather Black Project.** Vintage jazz and blues by an ensemble led by Heather Schwartz, a talented local singer whose vocal style also reflects gospel, R&B, soul, and hip-hop influences.

Rush Street

314 S. Main 913-0330

This martini lounge features nightly DJs, along with live music, Fri. 5-8 p.m., Sun. 10 p.m.-2 a.m., and occasional other nights. Dancing, no cover. **Every Fri. (except Mar. 7) & Sun.: Legendary Wings.** Local jazz quintet that focuses on dynamic, challenging, and less commonly heard music from the modern jazz repertoire interspersed with free improvisation. The usual lineup features saxophonists Dan Bennett and Tim Haldeman, Fender Rhodes electric pianist Matt Endahl, bassist Jordan Schug, and drummer Nick Collins.

Silvio's Organic Pizza

715 North University 214-6666

This campus-area restaurant features live music Thurs. & Sun. 6-8 p.m., Fri. 7-9 p.m., and occasional other nights. Swing dancing to a DJ Wed. 11 p.m.-12:30 a.m. No cover, no dancing (except Wed.). **Every Thurs.: Neal Anderson Quintet.** Local jazz ensemble led by trumpeter Anderson. **Every Sun.: Will Mefford.** Improvisations on jazz standards by this local pianist. **Mar. 7: Mixed Nuts.** Acoustic covers and originals by this Chelsea trio. **Mar. 14: Soncrain.** Straight-ahead jazz by this Novi-based ensemble. **Mar. 21: Steve Rich & Tim Prosser.** The local duo of singer-guitarist Rich and singer-songwriter and "mandolin maniac" Prosser performs a mix of acoustic originals and traditional music. Also, a guest musician TBA. **Mar. 28: J. Washburn Gardner.** Ypsilanti pop-folk singer-songwriter.

Tap Room

201 W. Michigan, Ypsilanti 482-5320

This popular downtown Ypsilanti tavern features live music Thurs. 8 p.m.-midnight, and occasional Fri. & Sat. 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m. Also, DJ with Latin dance music, Wed. 9 p.m.-1 a.m. No cover, dancing. **Every Thurs.: Electric Open Mike.** Hosted by The Martindales, a local band led by singer-guitarist Brian Brickley that plays blues and rock covers and originals. All electric musicians invited. **Mar. 1: The Flow.** Bluesy, rootsy folk-rock by the local acoustic duo (formerly known as As the Crow Flies) of singer-songwriter Sue Nordman and guitarist Tom Hicks.

Vinology

110 S. Main 222-9841

This wine bar and restaurant features live jazz the last 3 Thurs. each month 8:30-11 p.m. No cover, no dancing (unless otherwise noted). **Mar. 13: Edie Herrold Trio.** Mainstream jazz by this local ensemble led by veteran bassist Herrold. **Mar. 20: Gwenth Hayes Group.** Jazz-soul fusion by this ensemble fronted by Hayes, a local singer-songwriter and bassist whose music ranges from sultry jazz ballads and neo-soul arrangements to funk grooves and down-and-dirty blues. **Mar. 27: Andrew Bishop.** Contemporary jazz by an ensemble led by local saxophonist Bishop.

Wolverine State Brewing Co.

2019 W. Stadium 369-2990

This west-side brewpub features live music, Tues. 8 p.m.-midnight & some weekends, 8:30 p.m.-12:15 a.m. Cover, dancing. **Feb. 1: Harris Basement Jazz Collective.** An eclectic blend of jazz, funk, and blues by this local ensemble led by drummer Alan Harris. With saxophonist Warren Widmayer, guitarist Julian Levinson, and bassist Peter Throm. **Mar. 4: The Chevy Trailblazers.** New local bluegrass ensemble that includes members of the Flatbellys and Wire in the Wood. **Mar. 6: Jennifer Westwood.** Versatile Detroit singer-songwriter who fronts the retro outlaw honky-tonk band Waycross Georgia Farmboys. **Mar. 11: The Equinox Jazz Trio.** Jazz standards by this local piano trio featuring vocalist Kim Vox. **Mar. 15: Ghost City Searchlight.** Dearborn postpunk quartet whose music draws on Celtic and American folk idioms. Opening act is Devil Elvis, an Ypsilanti punk-rockabilly Elvis tribute band. **Mar. 18: The Chevy Trailblazers.** See above. **Mar. 20: The Understory.** Husband-and-wife acoustic folk-rock singer-songwriter duo of Jessica and Matt McCumons. **Mar. 25: The Tone Farmers.** Jam-oriented ensemble led by 2 members of the Macpodz—bassist Brennan Andes and trumpeter Ross Huff—that plays

jazz-based originals and covers of an eclectic array of American music classics. **Mar. 29: Nobody's Business.** See Mash.

Woodruff's

36 E. Cross, Ypsilanti 483-2800

This club in Ypsilanti's Depot Town features live music Tues. 8-10 p.m., and Wed.-Sat. 9:30 p.m.-2 a.m. Also, Friday happy hour bands 6-8 p.m. and karaoke on Tues. 10 p.m.-1 a.m. Cover (except Tues.), dancing. **Every Tues.: "Acoustic Open Mike."** All acoustic musicians invited. Hosted by local singer-songwriter Erik Santos. **Mar. 1: Chris Dupont.** Local acoustic folk-rock singer-songwriter known for his distinctive tenor, unconventional guitar work, and clever lyrics. Opening acts are Maria Rose & the Swift Kicks, a soul-inflected electro-pop trio from Flint, and Sean Duffy, a local singer-songwriter. **Mar. 2: "Boylesque."** Drag show. 10 p.m.-2 a.m. **Mar. 5 & 6: TBA.** **Mar. 7: The Dead Return.** Kalamazoo metal quintet. Opening acts are the Detroit stoner thrash-rock quartet Spitshine Tommy, the Ypsilanti progressive metal duo Mare Crisium, and the Toledo metal-rock quintet Illumina. **Mar. 8: Ghost City Searchlight.** See Wolverine. Opening acts are Team Captain, the veteran local ska and 80s-style pop quintet Hullabaloo, and the Ypsilanti country-oriented Americana band Salt City. **Mar. 12: TBA.** **Mar. 13: Steve D'Angelo & Company.** Anthemic rock 'n' roll by this band led by Detroit-area singer-songwriter D'Angelo. Opening acts are the Detroit folk-rock duo Woven Tangles, the Bowling Green (KY) indie progressive rock quintet The Buffalo Rodeo, and the Downriver acoustic rock 'n' roll singer-songwriter and guitarist Neenuh. **Mar. 14: Pulp Culture.** Detroit post-hardcore progressive rock quartet. Opening acts are the Waterford progressive metal quintet Amanita, the Detroit punk-rock garage trio The Excommunicators, and the Ypsilanti rock 'n' roll quartet Zombi Jesus & the Chocolate Sunshine Band. **Mar. 15: "Elbow Deep."** Drag show and gay and lesbian dance night hosted by Maxi and Jennifer of the House of Chanel, with a DJ TBA. **Mar. 19: The Sea The Sea.** Richly harmonized, smartly literate pop-folk story songs by the critically acclaimed Connecticut-based singer-songwriter duo of Mira Stanley and Chuck E. Costa. Opening acts are Otter River, an outlaw and classic country quintet from the U.P., and Nick Bertson & Little Traps, a local pop-folk quintet. **Mar. 20: Jim Cherewick & the Wicker Chairs.** Local band led by Cherewick, a local folk-rock singer-songwriter who writes intricate, emotionally forthright songs. Opening acts are Loose Teeth, a local rock quartet fronted by singer-songwriter Greg McIntosh, and Lost Boys, a local thrash-rock trio. **Mar. 21: The Cheetahs.** Ypsilanti trio that plays classic Detroit proto-punk rock 'n' roll. Opening act is The Ill Itches, a Detroit rock band. **Mar. 22: Screw.** Detroit-based rock band with early 70s punk roots. Opening acts are Wild Savages, a local hard-rock band, and Cult Heroes, a pioneering local punk band led by vocalist Hiawatha Bailey that's been riding its own rock 'n' roll maelstrom for more than 3 decades. **Mar. 26: Miguel Baptista Benedict.** Lansing-bred experimental electronic noise musician who records for the L.A.-based Brainfeeder label. Opening acts are the local experimental electronica band Storm Ross, the Ypsilanti ambient band Orphanage, and the Detroit guitar & drums postpunk rock duo Nebula Smile. **Mar. 27: Mister Suit.** Local singer-songwriter whose music blends R&B, soul, and punk. Opening acts are Anonymous Touch, the alter ego of local electronica and hip-hop DJ Charles Trees, and Fred Thomas, a nationally prominent local indie rock singer-songwriter. **Mar. 28: Anna Lee's Company.** Local blues- and funk-inflected folk-rock quintet whose influences range from the Band and Little Feat to Martin Medeski & Wood and Old Crow Medicine Show. Opening acts are Barbarossa Brothers, a Saginaw bayou-inflected Americana trio that cites Levon Helm as its main influence, and The Cattedog Orchestra, a Brighton world music quartet. **Mar. 29: Chasten Revolt.** Ypsilanti metal quartet. Opening acts are the Detroit headbanging metal quintet The Worst Of, the local indie rock band Decade of Flies, and the Lansing-area hardcore-metal band Know Lyfe. **Mar. 30: Ryan Yunk Band.** Local progressive metal-rock fusion band. Opening act is Michael Spain, a local pop-rock singer-songwriter.

Zal Gaz Grotto

2070 W. Stadium 663-1202

This Masonic social and service club hosts live music Sun. 5-8 p.m., Mon. 7:30-10:15 p.m., Tues. 5:30-8:30 p.m., & occasional other nights. Cover, dancing. **Every Sun.: Phil Ogilvie's Rhythm Kings.** This local 10-piece big band is one of the few to specialize in the old-time big-band music of the late 1920s and early 1930s associated with Jelly Roll Morton and King Oliver. Arrangements by the renowned early-jazz pianist James Dapogny and tubaist Chris Smith. **Every Mon.: Paul Keller Orchestra.** Award-winning 15-piece big band led by bassist Keller and featuring vocalist Sarah D'Angelo and occasional guest vocalists. Also, each week features a middle set by a guest student ensemble. **Every Tues.: Paul Klinger's Easy Street Jazz Band.** Dixieland and swing by this local ensemble led by saxophonist and trumpeter Klinger.

March Events

FILMS

- 67 Film Screenings**
John Hinchey & Katie Whitney
- 75 The Act of Killing**
James M. Manheim
- 91 The Ann Arbor Film Festival**
Patrick Dunn

GALLERIES

- 81 Exhibit Openings**
Katie Whitney

MUSIC AT NIGHTSPOTS

- 62 Nightspots**
John Hinchey
- Hoodang**
Patrick Dunn



Left to right: Norm Richert, Lesli Weston, Steve Jones, Jim Nissen, and Joe Medrano perform in the Friends of the Michigan League production of *See How They Run* Mar. 13-16.

EVENTS REVIEWS

- 71 Into the Wild**
Redwood Curtain
Sally Mitani
- 79 Heywood Banks**
Good clean gut laughs
Sandor Slomovits
- 87 Curtis Sittenfeld**
Midwestern beauty
Keith Taylor
- 93 Alex Belhaj**
The modest bandleader
arwulf arwulf

We want to know about your event!

Please send a press release (no phone calls, please).

- **By email:** events@aaobserver.com
- **By phone:** 769-3175
- **By mail:** Katie Whitney, Calendar Editor, Ann Arbor Observer, 2390 Winewood, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103
- **By fax:** 769-3375
- **After-hours drop box:** left side of the Observer's front door facing Winewood

What gets in?

We give priority to Ann Arbor events. Always include a contact person's telephone number. Please try to submit materials as early as possible; items submitted after the deadline (the tenth day of the preceding month) might not get in.

Next month's deadline:

All appropriate materials received by the tenth day of the month for the upcoming month will be used as space permits; materials submitted later might not get in (but will be added to annarborobserver.com).

★ Denotes a free event.

annarborobserver.com:

An expanded, continually updated version of this calendar is available at annarborobserver.com. This calendar is updated daily. If you have an event not listed in the print calendar, or want to update a listed event, please send it and we'll post it on annarborobserver.com.

arbormail:

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WARNING!

To save space, many recurrent events are noted only the first time they occur. This includes many weekly and biweekly events. To find a full list of events for the last Wednesday in the month, for example, readers should also check earlier Wednesday listings, especially the first Wednesday.

www.annarborobserver.com

I SATURDAY

★**"Using Technology for Social Justice": Gray Panthers of Huron Valley.** Talk by longtime Superior Technology Center president Michael-David BenDor. Refreshments. The program begins with coffee & socializing. 9:45 a.m.-noon, U-M Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 484-1744, 995-8962.

★**Saturday Morning Border-to-Border Ride: Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** Every Sat. 22-mile ride, at various paces along the Border-to-Border Trail, from Ann Arbor to Ypsilanti, to a place to eat lunch. 10 a.m.; meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 545-0541.

★**GameStart Festival: GameStart School.** Interactive learning activities and games for kids in grades 3-8, with representatives from the Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum, Backyard Brains, All Hands Active, and the Youth Arts Alliance. Also, a preview of this local technology education center for kids' upcoming curriculum, including game mechanics and design, Mine-craft programming, computer animation, and video editing. 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Menlo Innovations, 505 E. Liberty. Free. 926-9213.

★**"Preschool Yoga": Ann Arbor District Library.** Ananda Children yoga teacher Catalina Arango presents a program of stories and yoga poses promoting social skills and body awareness for preschoolers ages 2-5. 10-10:40 a.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Free. 327-8301.

★**"Maple Sugaring: A Journey to the Sugar Bush": Hudson Mills Metropark Interpretive Nature Programs.** Every Sat. & Sun., Feb. 22-Mar. 23. Naturalist Mark Irish discusses the history of maple sugaring and leads a hike to a stand of maple trees to see how they are tapped, followed by a trip to an evaporator to learn how sap is turned into syrup. 10 & 11 a.m. and noon, Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd., Dexter. \$5 (kids, \$3). Preregistration required. \$5 vehicle entrance fee. 426-8211.

★**Spanish Playgroup: Manzanitas Spanish Immersion Preschool.** Spanish stories and songs geared toward kids ages 6 months to 5 years, accompanied by a parent. Siblings welcome. 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Manzanitas, 511 Miller. Free. (Park in the church lot off Chapin.) 369-6563.

★**Storytime: Nicola's Books.** Every Sat. An experienced storyteller spins yarns for kids age 7 & under.

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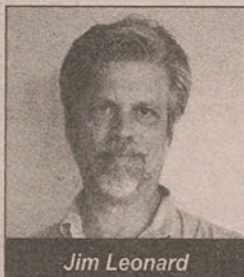
march 2014 highlights

Ann Arbor District Library

Events will take place in the Downtown Library Multi-Purpose Room, unless otherwise noted.



Peter Gray



Jim Leonard



March 20



March 22



Marianne Udow-Phillips



Jason Zeldes



Romel Joseph

- Sunday 2** **Comic Artists Forum: Jerzy Drozd Presents Podcasting To Reach New Audiences** • Learn how to reach new readers and build audience support • DT 4TH FL. MEETING ROOM • GRADE 6 - ADULT
1:00 - 3:00 pm
- Tuesday 4** **Words That Can Make You Money: How to Write a Winning Scholarship Essay** • Get inside information from the experts on the DOs and DON'Ts of writing an essay • GRADE 9 - ADULT
7:00 - 8:30 pm
- Thursday 6** **Emerging Writers Workshop: Red Pens & Rewrites** • Authors Lara Zielin and Margaret Yang lead the first in a series of monthly writing and publishing workshops • GRADE 6 - ADULT
7:00 - 8:45 pm
- Saturday 8** **Author/Early Childhood Expert Peter Gray Presents Free to Learn: How Children Educate Themselves Through Play** The author of a regular blog in *Psychology Today* discusses what free play does for intellectual, social and emotional development
2:00 - 3:30 pm
- Monday 10** **Music Expert Jim Leonard Discusses the Rock Legend Eric Burdon of The Animals**
7:00 - 8:30 pm
- Wednesday 12** **City of Ann Arbor 2014 Sustainable Ann Arbor Forum: Climate and Adaptation** • A discussion of current adaptation and resiliency strategies within the community and an introduction of the newly launched Community Climate Partnership
7:00 - 8:30 pm
- Wednesday 19** **Being Homeless In Washtenaw County** • Representatives of several community organizations discuss local homelessness
7:00 - 8:30 pm
- Thursday 20** **FILM & DISCUSSION • The Fabulous Ice Age** • Director Keri Pickett leads a discussion after a screening of her award-winning film
6:00 - 8:30 pm
- Saturday 22** **10th Anniversary Community Celebration for Malletts Creek Branch** • Stop by for souvenir giveaways and scheduled activities for all ages! • MALLETT'S CREEK BRANCH
9:00 am - 6:00 pm
- Tuesday 25** **BRIGHT NIGHTS COMMUNITY FORUM • Health Care Reform & Mental Health Parity: What Does It Mean for You? • Marianne Udow-Phillips, MHSA, Director, Center for Healthcare Research and Transformation, discusses mental health care and the Affordable Care Act, including Q&A with medical experts**
7:00 - 8:30 pm
- Wednesday 26** **Jason Zeldes, Film Editor for 20 Feet From Stardom** Fresh from the Oscars, Jason discusses the making of this Oscar-nominated film and the process of editing a major motion picture
7:00 - 8:30 pm
- Wednesday 26** **Arborwiki Edit Night** • Meet several editors of this "civic wiki" and learn how you might be a contributor/editor! Bring your laptop or use one of AADL's • DT 3RD FL. FREESPACE • GRADE 9 - ADULT
7:00 - 9:00 pm
- Thursday 27** **Nerd Nite Ann Arbor at LIVE** • Short, fun-yet-informative presentations about everything — AADL co-presents this edition of Nerd Nite! • LIVE, 102 S. 1ST STREET • NO CHARGE
6:30 - 9:00 pm
- Thursday 27** **CONCERT & LECTURE • Never Give Up with musician Romel Joseph** Blind since childhood, this internationally-acclaimed musician founded an elementary and music school in Haiti which was destroyed twice, by fire in 2000 and by earthquake in 2010
7:00 - 8:45 pm
- Friday 28** **The American Art Tile Movement and Motawi Tileworks with Nawal Motawi and Joseph Taylor** • PITTSFIELD BRANCH
7:00 - 8:30 pm
- Sunday 30** **Festive FoolMoon Illuminated Streamers!** • Make a streamer with sewn-on LED lights to wave at the April 4 FoolMoon celebration! • MALLETT'S CREEK BRANCH • GRADE 6 - ADULT
2:00 - 4:30 pm

For more information: 327.4555 or aadl.org

Note: Most educational documentaries are listed with the daily Events.

52nd Annual Ann Arbor Film Festival. Mar. 25-30. See review, p. 91. The oldest and one of the most prestigious film festivals in North America features 6 days of film screenings, panel discussions, and parties that culminate in screenings of the award-winning films on Mar. 30. The competition showcases new experimental and independent 16-mm, 35-mm, and digital films and videos in a wide range of genres. Tickets: \$95 (members, students, & seniors, \$80) for the entire festival & \$55 (members, students, & seniors, \$45) for weekend passes in advance at aafilmfest.org, and \$9 (students, seniors, & members, \$7; mid-night movies, \$6) per evening show at the door. 995-5356. Michigan Theater (unless otherwise noted), various times.

Mar. 25: Opening Night. The festival kicks off to-night with screenings of independent short films, including animation, documentary, narrative, and experimental films, as well as the North American premiere of *A Million Miles Away*, former festival winner Jennifer Reeder's supernatural coming-of-age tale told in the form of an 80s heavy metal anthem. Also, *Cut*, Matthias Müller and Christoph Girardet's wordless montage of images of disfigurement and decay from recognizable films and *The Dark*, Krystle Michael Robinson's film told from the perspective of a middle-aged woman who died in a fire. Preceded from 6-8 p.m. by a **gala reception** (\$35; members, students, & seniors, \$25; screening only, \$9) with music spun by DJ Jeremy Wheeler and an open bar & appetizers from local restaurants. Also, a **"Backstage Fund-raiser Dinner"** (\$150) from 6-8 p.m. at Sava's restaurant. 8-10 p.m.

Mar. 26: Talks on "Identity, Creativity, and Well-being: The Role of the Arts Festival in Engaging Communities" and "Convergent Media Activism Through Projection" (2435 U-M North Quad, 105 S. State). FREE, 10 a.m.-noon. **"Big as Life, 8mm Experimental Film in the U.S.: The Boston Underground, 1976-1992"** Films chosen by festival judge Steve Anker, including many from the *Big As Life* 8mm and Super 8 collection held at MoMA from 1998-2000, as well as a rare screening of the late Anne Charlotte Robinson's 1990 film *Apologies*. FREE, 12:30 p.m. **"Music Videos in Competition"** (3 p.m.). **"Gradual Speed"** (4:30 p.m.). Els Van Riel's austere meditation on movement, matter, light, and perception. Also, a screening of Leighton Pierce's meditative short *White Ash*. **"Joseph Bernard: Super 8 Films"** (7 p.m.) a selection of Detroit artist Bernard's 1970s and 80s films. Appearance by Bernard. **"Films in Competition 1"** (7:15 p.m.), including Akram Zaatari's *Letter to a Refusing Pilot*—about the Israeli pilot who refused to strike his assigned target in the 1982 invasion of Lebanon—and other documentary, abstract, and animated shorts. **"Thom Andersen: Films 1965-2014"** (9:15 p.m.). First of a 5-part complete retrospective of this L.A.-based filmmaker's work. Tonight's program features newly restored prints of his earliest works as well as his most recent film, *Hey, Asshole!* Appearance by Andersen. **"Out Night: Films in Competition"** (9:30 p.m.). Contemporary LGBTQ films. Films are followed by an **after-party** at the *Laurel Bar* (11 p.m.-2 a.m.), with fire pits in the courtyard and free appetizers.

Mar. 27: Talks on "Making is a Form of Thinking" and "Ask the Programmer" (2435 U-M North Quad, 105 S. State). FREE, 10 a.m.-noon. **"Hope Tucker: The Obituary Project"** (12:30 p.m.). Festival juror Tucker presents work from her ongoing series that documents the passing of cultural markers and ways of being. **"Thom Andersen: Eadweard Muybridge, Zoopraxographer"** (3 p.m.). Newly restored 35mm print of Andersen's 1975 film about the origins of cinema. **"Touch: Feature in Competition"** (7 p.m.). Shelly Silver's drama about a librarian who returns to Chinatown to care for his dying mother and spends his time collecting images. **"Films in Competition 2"** (7:15 p.m.), experimental and documentary shorts, including Simon Starling's *Black Drop*—about the transit of Venus—and James Benning's 1976 *Chicago Loop*. **"Penelope Spheeris: Films 1965-1998"** (9:15 p.m.), with Spheeris's early films *I Don't Know* and *Hats Off to Hollywood*, which plumb the personal desires and heartaches of a transgender person as she makes her way through L.A. Appearance by Spheeris. **"Films in Competition 3"** (9:30 p.m.), experimental and documentary films, including *Let Us Persevere in What We Have Resolved Before We Forget*, Ben Russell's 2013 portrayal of a rite performed on the island of Tanna, Melanesia. Followed by an **after-party** at the Ravens Club (11:30 p.m.-2 a.m.).

Mar. 28: Talks on "Politics: Aesthetics: Action" and "Avant-garde as Kitsch: Experimental Film and Internet Video" (2435 North Quad, 105 S. State). FREE, 10 a.m.-noon. **"Jeremy Rigsby:**

God's Asshole and Other Ideas of the Previous Century (12:30 p.m.). AAFJ juror and Media City Film Festival (Windsor, ON) director Rigsby presents 9 films featured in past retrospectives at Media City. **"From Gulf to Gulf to Gulf"** (UMMA Auditorium, 525 S. State). Documentary, captured on cell phone cameras, about sailors from the Kutch district in western India. FREE, 3 p.m. **"Thom Andersen: Red Hollywood"** (4 p.m.), a screening of Noël Burch and Andersen's recently re-edited 1996 documentary about the works of Communist directors who were blacklisted in Hollywood. Appearance by Andersen. **"Penelope Spheeris: The Decline of Western Civilization I"** (5 p.m.), a screening of Spheeris's 1980 cult documentary about the L.A. punk rock scene. Appearance by Spheeris.

Mar. 29: "What the Hell Was That?" (2435 North Quad, 105 S. State). Screening and discussion of several challenging experimental short films from this year's festival. FREE, 10 a.m.-noon. **"Films in Competition 5 (Ages 6+)"** (11 a.m.). Documentary, animated, and narrative shorts geared toward kids age 6 & up. \$5. **"Films in Competition 6"** (11 a.m.), experimental, documentary, and narrative films, including the Senegalese film *Mille Soleils*, which looks back at filmmaker Mati Diop's late uncle's 1972 Dakar cult film *Touki Bouki*. **"Thom Andersen: Los Angeles Plays Itself"** (12:30 p.m.), a newly reedited version of Andersen's 2003 masterpiece, a 3-hour documentary about how Los Angeles has been depicted in film. Andersen and critic and scholar Genevieve Yue discuss the film. **"Films in Competition 7"** (1 p.m.), new experimental, documentary, and animated films. **"Films in Competition 8"** (3 p.m.), new experimental, documentary, and animated films. **"From Deep: Feature in Competition"** (5 p.m.), Brett Kashmere's documentary about basketball and its shifting role in 20th-century American culture. **"The Absent Stone (La Piedra Ausente): Feature in Competition"** (5 p.m.), Sandra Rozental and Jesse Lerner's documentary about a massive carved stone that was moved to Mexico City in 1964, a move that sparked a rebellion that led to a military intervention. **"Costa da Morte: Feature in Competition"** (7 p.m.), Lois Patino's stunning 2013 landscape documentary about the Costa da Morte ("Coast of Death") region in Galicia, Spain. **"Films in Competition 9"** (7:15 p.m.), new experimental, documentary, narrative, and animated films. **"Manakamana"** (9:15 p.m.), Stephanie Spray and Pachó Velez's film, shot inside a cable car that carries pilgrims and tourists to and from a mountaintop temple in Nepal, is a thrillingly mysterious cross between science fiction and ethnography. **"Films in Competition 10"** (9:30 p.m.), new experimental, documentary, narrative, and animated films. **"Suburbia"** (midnight, State Theater), Penelope Spheeris's 1984 film about suburban punks who run away from home. \$6. Followed by an after-party at LIVE (11 p.m.-2 a.m.).

Mar. 30: A stop-action animation workshop (10 a.m.-noon, 2435 North Quad, 105 S. State). FREE. **"It for Others: Film in Competition"** (11 a.m.), Duncan Campbell's film that uses Chris Marker and Alain Resnais's 1953 film *Les Statues meurent aussi* ("Statues also Die") to explore the ideas of cultural imperialism and commodity. Preceded by a screening of *Les Statues meurent aussi*. **"Thom Andersen: Reconversão"** (1 p.m.), a screening of Andersen's 2012 film, a combination travelogue and architectural study, with Portuguese architect Eduardo Souto de Moura. Appearance by Andersen. **"Films in Competition 11"** (1:15 p.m.), new experimental and documentary films, featuring Deborah Stratman's *Hacked Circuit*, about sound artists at work on the Foley process of adding everyday ambient sounds to a film. **"The Forgotten Space"** (2 p.m., UMMA Auditorium, 525 S. State), Noël Burch and Allan Sekula's documentary that follows a shipping container along the international supply chain. FREE. **"Purgatorio: Feature in Competition"** (3:15 p.m.), Rodrigo Reyes's provocative film that reimagines the Mexico-U.S. border as a mythical place comparable to Dante's purgatory. **"Award Program 1"** (6 p.m.). **"Award Program 2"** (8:15 p.m.). Followed by an after-party (10 p.m.-1 a.m.) at the Alley Bar.

Ann Arbor District Library. FREE. 327-4555. AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave.

Mar. 20: "The Fabulous Ice Age" (Keri Pickett, 2013). Award-winning documentary about the history of theatrical figure skating that draws on rare archival footage and candid interviews with producers and skaters. Followed by a discussion with director Pickett. 6-8:30 p.m.

Ann Arbor Senior Center. FREE. 794-6250. 1320 Baldwin.

Every Mon.: "Movie Matinee," with films TBA. 12:30-3 p.m.

Center of Light "Conscious Movie Night." FREE. 330-5048. Center of Light, 200 Huronview Blvd. (off N. Main), 8 p.m.

Mar. 21: "The Path: Afterlife" (Michael Haebernick, 2007). Documentary about beliefs in life after death and near-death experiences.

Inspire-Healing Film Festival. Donation. 531-9570. April Wellness Center (107 April Dr.), 7 p.m.

Mar. 28: "The Guitar" (Amy Redford, 2008). After a woman is fired, abandoned by her boyfriend, and diagnosed with a terminal disease, she decides to pursue her dreams. **"The Divine Matrix"** (2008). Documentary in which Gregg Braden discusses the ideas in his book that posits a great field of intelligent energy that connects all things in existence.

Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth. \$5 suggested donation. 327-0270. 704 Airport Blvd., 8 p.m.

Mar. 15: "Spiritual Cinema." Screening of a feature film or several shorts TBA with spiritual themes. Followed by discussion.

Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice. FREE, but donations welcome. 996-2796. Church of the Good Shepherd (2145 Independence Blvd.), 7 p.m.

Mar. 4: "Our Fires Still Burn" (Audrey Geyer, 2013). Documentary about contemporary Native Americans living in the Midwest. Followed by a discussion with Geyer.

Jewel Heart Buddhist Center. FREE. 994-3387. Jewel Heart (1129 Oak Valley Dr. between Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. & Ellsworth), 7 p.m.

Mar. 28: "Brilliant Moon" (Neten Chokling, 2010). Intimate documentary about the life of Dilgo Khyentse Rinpoche, the late head of the Nyingma lineage of Tibetan Buddhism. Narrated by Richard Gere and Lou Reed. Followed by discussion.

Michigan Theater Foundation. Unless there is a live show in the main theater, 2 or 3 different films are shown, usually twice, almost every night. For complete, updated schedules, see michtheater.org or call 668-TIME. Tickets (unless otherwise noted): \$10 (children under 12, students with ID, seniors age 55 & older, & U.S. veterans, \$8; MTF members, \$7.50; films before 6 p.m., \$7). Michigan Theater (unless otherwise noted), times TBA unless otherwise noted.

Feb. 28-Mar. 6: "Gloria" (Sebastián Lelio, 2013). Comic drama set in Santiago about a free-spirited older woman who has a whirlwind relationship with a former naval officer. Spanish & English, subtitles.

Mar. 2: "How to Train Your Dragon" (Chris Sanders, 2010). Computer-animated fantasy adventure set in a mythical Viking world. Kids 12 & under, FREE. 1:30 p.m.

Mar. 2: "The Ring" (Alfred Hitchcock, 1927). Recently restored print of this silent boxing melodrama. With live organ accompaniment. 4 p.m.

Mar. 4: "Suspicion" (Alfred Hitchcock, 1941). A wealthy, sheltered woman marries a charming ne'er-do-well she comes to suspect may be planning to kill her for her money. Joan Fontaine, Cary Grant. 7 p.m.

Mar. 6: 2014 Arab Film Festival. With screenings of *The Forgotten* (Ehab Tarabieh, 2012), a Tribeca Film Festival award-winning short about a smuggler on the Israeli border of the Golan Heights who finds himself with an unexpected cargo, and *When I Saw You* (Annemarie Jacir, 2012), a drama about an 11-year-old boy searching for a way out of life in a Palestinian refugee camp in Jordan. Arabic, subtitles. \$10 (Arab American museum & MTF members, \$8). 7:30 p.m.

Mar. 9: "Saboteur" (Alfred Hitchcock, 1942). Offbeat thriller about a munitions worker wrongly accused of sabotage and forced to go on the lam around the country. Script written in part by Dorothy Parker. 5 p.m.

Mar. 11: "Shadow of a Doubt" (Alfred Hitchcock, 1943). A lively teen grows to suspect that her beloved uncle may be a serial killer. Teresa Wright, Joseph Cotton. 7 p.m.

Mar. 12: "The Act of Killing" (Joshua Oppenheimer, 2012). See review, p. 75. Oscar-nominated documentary about mass killings in Indonesia in 1965. Indonesian, subtitles. Followed by a Q&A with an Indonesian film producer.

Mar. 15: "How to Use Guys with Secret Tips" (Lee Won-seok, 2013). Rom-com about a down-on-her-luck woman who uses the tips in an old dating video to improve her work and love life. Part of the U-M Center for Korean Studies "Korean Cinema Now" Series. FREE, 2 p.m.

Mar. 16: "Wolf Children" (Mamoru Hosoda, 2012). Animated drama about a young woman who falls in love with a Wolf Man and, after his death, decides to move to a rural town to raise their 2 children. Japanese, subtitles. FREE. 5 p.m.

Mar. 16: "Lifeboat" (Alfred Hitchcock, 1944). When a ship of Americans and Britons is sunk by a missile from a German U-boat during WWII, the survivors must cope with the elements—and each other. Tallulah Bankhead, William Bendix. 5 p.m.

Mar. 17: "The Anonymous People" (Greg D. Williams, 2013). Documentary about the more than 23 million Americans living in long-term recovery from alcohol and other drug addictions. \$10 in advance at <http://gathr.us/screening/7110>. The screening takes place only if enough advance tickets are sold by Mar. 10. 7 p.m.

Mar. 18: "Spellbound" (Alfred Hitchcock, 1945). The youthful new director of a posh mental asylum is not who he claims to be. Gregory Peck, Ingrid Bergman. 7 p.m.

Mar. 19: "Minority Report" (Steven Spielberg, 2002). Sci-fi thriller, adapted from a Philip K. Dick story, about a futuristic police department that arrests criminals before they've committed a crime based

on reports they receive from clairvoyant beings. Tom Cruise. Followed by a panel discussion with U-M philosophy professors. FREE. 6 p.m.

Mar. 22: "A Werewolf Boy" (Sung-Hee Jo, 2012). When an elderly woman visits the country cottage she grew up in, memories of an orphan boy she once knew come flooding back. Part of the U-M Center for Korean Studies "Korean Cinema Now" Series. FREE, 2 p.m.

Mar. 23: "Downhill" (Alfred Hitchcock, 1927). Recently restored print of this silent melodrama about a boy whose life falls apart when he is expelled from school after he takes the blame for a friend's crime. With live organ accompaniment. 8 p.m.

Mar. 31: "Particle Fever" (Mark Levinson, 2013). Documentary thriller that follows the experiences of 6 scientists during the launch of the Large Hadron Collider in search of a theoretical subatomic particle. Followed by a talk by a U-M physics professor TBA.

State Theater Midnight Movies. For complete, updated schedule, see michtheater.org or call 761-8667. Tickets \$7. Midnight.

Mar. 14 & 15: "The Room" (Tommy Wiseau, 2003). Dark comedy—a critically reviled ("the Citizen Kane of bad movies") cult favorite—about a successful banker who's about to be married until he finds out the horrible truth about his fiancée.

U-M Center for Russian, East European, & Eurasian Studies. FREE. 764-0351. UMMA Stern Auditorium (525 S. State), 5:30-9 p.m.

Mar. 18: "The Death of Captain Pilecki" (Ryszard Bugajski, 2006). Drama about the WWII Polish resistance leader who was later executed by the Communists as a spy for the postwar Polish government-in-exile. Polish, subtitles. The screening is preceded by a Q&A with the film's star, Marek Prosz. 7 p.m.

U-M Frankel Center for Judaic Studies "Yiddish Movie Night." FREE. 763-9047. 2022 Thayer Bldg. (202 S. Thayer), 6 p.m.

Mar. 25: "Our Children" (Natan Gross, 1948). A comedy duo plays all the parts in a Sholem Aleichem story staged for an audience of child Holocaust survivors. Yiddish, subtitles.

U-M India Theme Semester. FREE. 615-4059. 2435 North Quad, 7 p.m.

Mar. 10: "Gol Maal (Confusion)" (Hrishikesh Mukherjee, 1979). Comedy about a recent college grad who goes to absurd lengths to avoid upsetting his finicky boss. Hindi & Urdu, subtitles.

Mar. 17: "Red Ant Dream" (Sanjay Kak, 2013). Documentary about the contemporary revolutionary Maoist movement in India. Followed by a Q&A with the director. Gondi, Oriya, Punjabi; English & Hindi subtitles.

Mar. 24: "My Beautiful Laundrette" (Stephen Frears, 1985). Acclaimed drama about the romance between a young Pakistani immigrant and a London street punk who start a successful laundromat business. Daniel Day Lewis.

Mar. 31: "Oye Lucky! Lucky Oye!" (Dibakar Banerjee, 2008). A burglar reflects on his life and loves while the media speculates about how he managed to pull off so many heists. Hindi, subtitles.

U-M Romance Languages & Literatures Latin American Film Series. FREE. 764-5344. Spanish, subtitles. 100 Hutchins Hall (625 S. State), 7 p.m.

Mar. 20: "Here and There" (Antonio Méndez Esparza, 2012). Drama about a man who returns to his wife and daughter and life in a small mountain village in Guerrero, Mexico, after years of working in New York City. Winner of the top prize at the Critics' Week section of the Cannes Film Festival. Spanish, subtitles. 100 Hutchins Hall (625 S. State), 7 p.m.

Mar. 27: "Amerikanuak" (Nacho Reig, 2011). Documentary, set under the vast blue skies and bleak but beautiful winter landscape of the small town of Elko, Nevada, about the remaining population of Basques who left Spain 50 years ago in search of better lives as sheepherders in the American West. Basque & English, subtitles. 2435 North Quad (105 S. State), 7 p.m.

U-M School of Art & Design. FREE. 763-1265. Work Ann Arbor (Mar. 15, 306 S. State) & U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium (Mar. 27, 1226 Murfin), 7 p.m.

Mar. 15 & 27: "Muscatawagh: Plains Burnt Over" (Peter Leix, 2014). World premiere of this documentary about life in Flint that functions as a series of portraits of people who bring brightness and structure to a collapsed environment. Followed on Mar. 15 by a Q&A with Leix, who was the cinematographer for the acclaimed 2012 documentary *Medora* and who is currently a U-M MFA student. The Mar. 27 screening is followed by a Q&A with Leix, the film's composer, and some of the subjects of the film.

WCBN-FM. FREE admission. 763-3500. Arbor Brewing Company (114 E. Washington), 8:30 p.m.

Mar. 11: "We Jam Econo: The Story of the Minutemen" (Tim Irwin, 2005). Documentary about the hugely influential '80s L.A. punk band.

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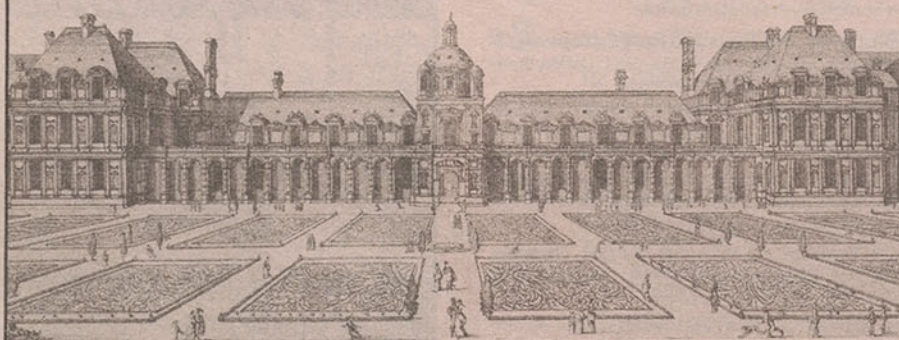
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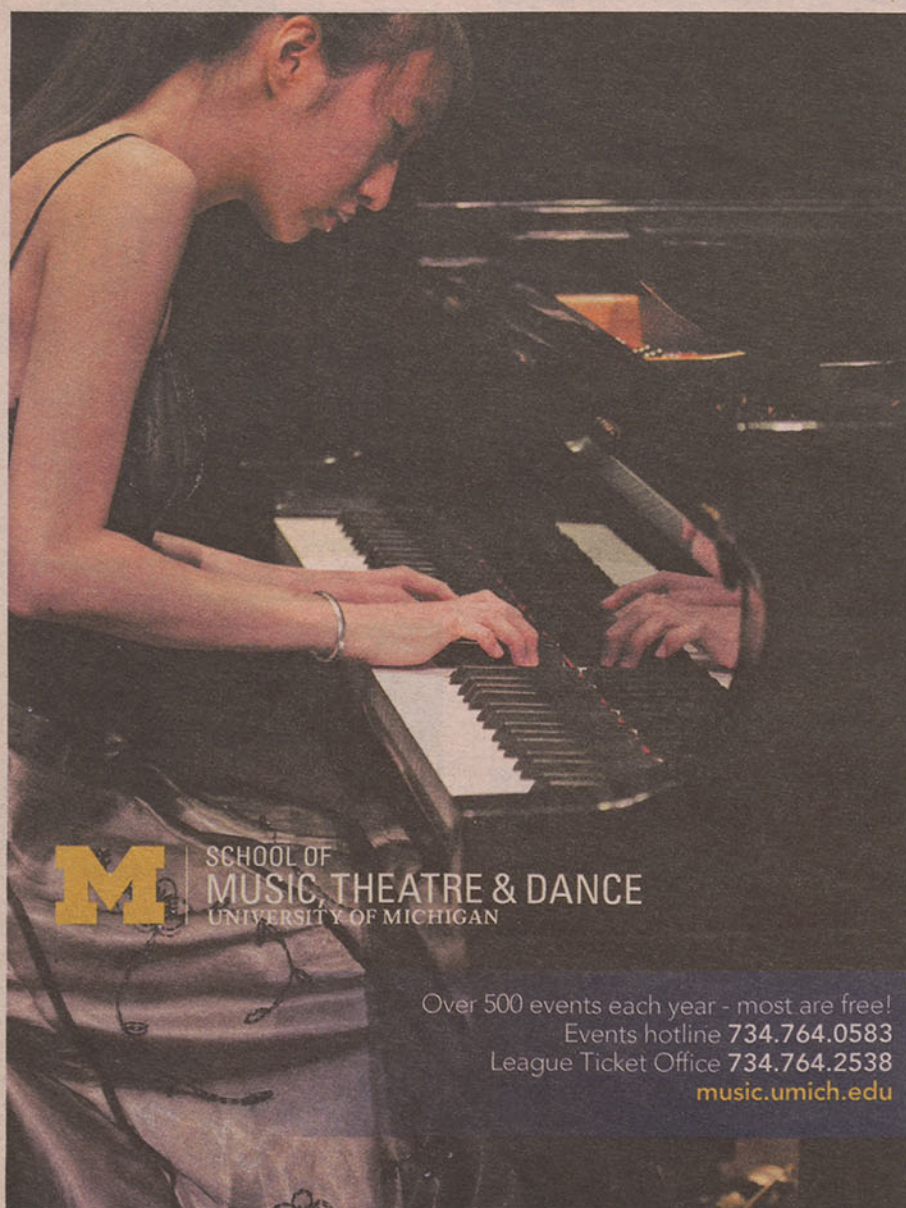
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Also, on Mar. 15 only, the Huron Valley Humane Society brings adoptable pets to a storytime that includes activities, crafts, and a chance to meet Clifford the Big Red Dog. The Mar. 15 storytime is geared toward kids ages 2-5. 11 a.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662-0600.

★**Children's Storytime: Barnes & Noble.** Every Sat. Storytelling programs and occasional craft activities for kids age 3 & up. 11 a.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973-1618.

★**Storytime: Literati Bookstore.** Every Sat. 15-minute storytime geared toward very young children. 11 a.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585-5567.

★**"SSSSSSSnakes!": U-M Natural History Museum.** Every Sat. & Sun. 20-minute interactive demo exploring the biology and behavior of snakes, including sanajeh, the 11-foot snake that lived during the Cretaceous and ate baby dinosaurs. 11 a.m. (Sat.) & 3 p.m. (Sat. & Sun.), Natural History Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free. 764-0478.

U-M Natural History Museum Planetarium. Every Sat. & Sun. Three different audiovisual planetarium shows. *The Sky Tonight* (Sat. 11:30 a.m., Sat. & Sun. 1:30 & 3:30 p.m.) is an exploration of the current night sky. *Cosmic Colors* (Sat. 12:30 p.m.) is an audiovisual journey across the entire electromagnetic spectrum that explores the reasons for color, the nature of X-rays, and more. *The Cowboy Astronomer* (Sat. & Sun. 2:30 p.m.) is an audiovisual show about a cowboy who has spent a lifetime studying the night sky and listening to star legends. Various times, U-M Natural History Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. \$5. 764-0478.

★**"Prince Igor": Quality 16.** Live broadcast of the Metropolitan Opera production of Dmitri Tcherniakov's new staging of Borodin's 1890 epic, famous for its Polovtsian Dances. The opera functions as a brilliant psychological journey through the mind of its conflicted hero, one of the founding heroes of the Russian nation. Stars bass-baritone Ildar Abdrazakov. The broadcast is repeated on tape Mar. 5 (see listing). Noon-4:30 p.m., Quality 16, 3686 Jackson. Tickets \$23 (seniors, \$20; kids age 12 & under & students, \$13.50) in advance at gqi.com/met.aspx and at the door. 623-7469.

★**Dinosaur Tours: U-M Natural History Museum.** Every Sat. & Sun. 30-minute docent-led tour of the museum's dinosaur exhibits. 2 p.m., U-M Natural History Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free, but limited to the first 15 people to sign up for each tour. 764-0478.

★**Ann Arbor Juggling Arts Club.** Every Sat. All invited to practice their juggling skills. Beginners welcome. Indoor location TBA in case of inclement weather. 2:30-5 p.m., U-M Diag. Free. 761-1115.

★**"Storytelling with Computer Animation: 5 Elements of a Story": Ann Arbor District Library.** Adults and youth in grades 5 & up invited to learn to use programming technology to create an animated story. 3-5 p.m., AADL training center, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-8301.

★**"Strum & Drum": Oz's Music Environment.** Every Sat. Families invited to get on stage to sing and make music on a variety of instruments. Also, at 4 p.m. on Mar. 1 only, a free Kids Open Stage. 3-4 p.m., Oz's, 1920 Packard. \$15 per family. 662-8283.

★**Pittsfield Open Band: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance.** Mar. 1 & 15. All musicians invited for a contra dance music open jam. Bring Judi Morningstar's *The Ruffwater Fakebook*, Susan Songer's *The Portland Collection*, and Bill Matthiesen's *The Waltz Book* if you have them. 3-6 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.), Saline. Free. 994-9307.

★**"Oliver!": Encore Musical Theatre Company.** Every Thurs.-Sun., Feb. 6-Mar. 2. This local professional company performs Lionel Bart's popular musical adaptation of Dickens's *Oliver Twist*, the tale of an orphaned boy who falls in with a band of pickpockets in Victorian London. The score includes many popular hits, including "Where Is Love?", "Food, Glorious Food," "As Long As He Needs Me," and the title tune. Cast: Alejandro Cantu, Ben Chambers, Tobin Hissong, Mahalia Greenway, Andrew Gorney, David Kiley, Christine Purchis, William Fowle, & Sara Catheryn Wolf. 3 p.m. (Sat., Sun. & Feb. 27), 7 p.m. (Thurs.), & 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), Encore, 3126 Broad St., Dexter. Tickets \$32 (seniors age 60 & older, \$30; youth age 17 & under and groups of 10 or more, \$28) in advance at theencoretheatre.org and at the door. 268-6200.

★**"A Meditation in Paint: Floral": Ann Arbor Senior Center.** Susan Bloye is on hand for an opening reception for an exhibit of her exquisite acrylic paintings of flowers (see Galleries). 4-6 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 794-6250.

★**In Good Company African American Book Club.** All invited to join a discussion of *Type N*, Michelle N. Onuorah's novel about a young woman who's the target of a worldwide manhunt because her blood can

cure any ailment. 4 p.m., Nicola's Books, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662-0600.

★**"On the Move: Planes, Trains, and Balloons": Vocal Arts Ensemble.** Ben Cohen directs this local 24-voice chamber choir in a transportation-themed program that features Broadway, Hollywood, and other songs by soloists, small groups, and the full choir. Also, a 4-course dinner, wine, cash bar, Viennese coffee bar, and silent auction. 5:30-10 p.m., Kensington Court Hotel, 610 Hilton Blvd. (off S. State just past Briarwood). Tickets \$75 in advance only by Feb. 26 from VAE members or by calling Roxy at 998-0115.

★**U-M Men's Basketball vs. Minnesota.** The U-M also has a game this month against Indiana (Mar. 8, 6 p.m.), 6 p.m., Crisler Center. Ticket prices TBA at mgoblue.com/tickets. 764-0247.

★**"Winter Beach Blast": Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Fundraiser.** An indoor beach-themed party with live entertainment by Michigan comedian Bill Hildebrandt and 50 Amp Fuse, a popular Detroit band that plays 70s and 80s classic rock. 6:30 p.m.-1 a.m., Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Tickets \$50 in advance at cfpartyforbreath.com and at the door. 429-3028.

★**Bockbierfest: Ann Arbor Schwaben Verein.** This annual spring festival features a German dinner followed by dancing to Eric Neubauer & His Dorfmusikanten. 6:45-10:30 p.m. (doors open at 6 p.m.), UAW Local 892 Hall, 601 Woodland, Saline. Tickets \$25 (includes dinner & beverages) in advance and (if available) at the door. Reservations recommended; call John Jarvis (954-0281), Art French (662-4964), or Walt Hahn (353-9229).

★**Team USA Under-17 vs. Dubuque.** Mar. 1 & 2. The younger of the 2 Ann Arbor-based USA Hockey national development teams plays a weekend series against this U.S. Hockey League rival. **Team USA Under-18** has games this month against Cedar Rapids (Mar. 7 & 8, 7 p.m.), Youngstown (Mar. 23, 3:30 p.m.), Omaha (Mar. 29, 7 p.m.), and Muskegon (Mar. 30, 3:30 p.m.). 7 p.m. (Mar. 1) & 3:30 p.m. (Mar. 2), Ann Arbor Ice Cube, 2121 Oak Valley Dr. at Scio Church Rd. \$7 (seniors, students, active military, & kids, \$5; youth hockey players with jerseys, \$1). 327-9251.

★**15th Annual Benefit Concert: Dance Alliance Repertory Company.** Dance Alliance students perform ballet, tap, jazz, modern, lyrical, hip-hop, and other dance styles. 7 p.m., Ellen Ewing Performing Arts Center, Saline High School, 1300 Campus Pkwy., Saline. Tickets \$13. 429-9599.

★**Benefit Concert & Dinner: Lost Voices.** This folk and blues concert features world-class local harmonica wizard Peter Madcat Ruth, folk-blues singer and virtuoso guitarist Josh White, Jr., and pop-folk singer-songwriter Mike Ball, who is also an Erma Bombeck Award-winning humorist. Ball is the founder of Lost Voices, a nonprofit organization that creates programs for incarcerated and at-risk youth. Preceded at 5:30 p.m. by dinner. 7 p.m., St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 1344 Bergstrom. Ypsilanti. \$15 (\$25 includes dinner) in advance only for dinner & concert, in advance and at the door for the concert only. 476-7309, 358-1648.

★**"Gendermat and Night of Fights": U-M Basement Arts.** Feb. 27-Mar. 1. Austin Meyer directs students in *Gendermat*, Mark Dunn's drama, set in a basement laundry room, about breakups of 4 couples with various gender permutations. Emily Hanley and Jacqueline Toboni direct *Night of Fights*, the annual mash-up of stage combat scenes. This year's theme is villains. 7 p.m. (Feb. 27-Mar. 1) & 11 p.m. (Feb. 28), U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. basementarts.org.

★**"Drum 4 Wellness Circle": Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth.** All invited to join a drum circle. Bring a drum or use one provided. 7:30-9 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd. \$5 suggested donation. 480-1219.

★**1st Saturday Contra: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance.** Julie Levy-Weston calls to live music by Kalamazoo band Bowhunter. All dances taught; no partner needed. Bring flat, smooth-sole shoes. 8-11 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.), Saline. \$11 (members, \$10; students, \$6). 662-9290, 769-1052.

★**"Milonga Picante": U-M Michigan Argentine Tango Club.** Mar. 1 & 15. Tango dancing to music spun by a DJ. 8 p.m.-midnight, Michigan League Anderson Room. \$10 (members, \$5). umich.edu/~umtango.

★**Latitude 49: The Yellow Barn.** U-M grad student chamber ensemble. Other acts TBA. Followed 10 p.m.-3 a.m. by dancing to reggaeton, house, and hip-hop spun by DJ Mota (\$10 cover). 8 p.m., Yellow Barn, 416 W. Huron. \$10 (Yellow Card or Pink Punch Card holders, free). ouryellowbarn.com.

★**"Venus in Fur": Performance Network Professional Season.** Every Thurs.-Sun., Feb. 27-Apr. 6.

Jennifer Graham directs Maggie Meyer & Sebastian Gerstner in David Ives' 2011 Tony-nominated 2-person comic drama about a writer grumbling about the caliber of actresses who have auditioned for his adaptation of Sacher-Masoch's 1870 novel *Venus in Furs*, when he is waylaid by a latecomer who seems even less promising than her predecessors. But when she convinces him to read through his play with her, she exhibits a strange mastery of the material, and the lines between art and reality gradually dissolve as she engages him in an increasingly serious battle for domination. 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 7:30 p.m. (Thurs.), 2 p.m. (Sun.), & 3 p.m. (Mar. 15 & 29), *Performance Network*, 120 E. Huron. Preview tickets: whatever you can afford to pay (Feb. 27), \$22 (Feb. 28 and Mar. 2 & 6), and \$30 (Mar. 1). Mar. 7 opening night tickets: \$39 & \$41 includes reception. After Mar. 7: \$27 & \$29 (Thurs.), \$32 & \$34 (Fri. & Sat.), \$25 & \$27 (Sat. matinee), \$39 & \$41 (Sat. eve.). \$3 discount for seniors age 60 & over. Tickets available in advance at performancenetwork.org & by phone, and at the door. \$10 student discount in advance, half-price student tickets at the door only. For reservations, call 663-0681; to charge by phone, call 663-0696.

"Redwood Curtain": Purple Rose Theatre Company. Every Wed.-Sun. through Mar. 15. See review, p. 71. Stephanie Buck directs local actors in Lanford Wilson's drama about a young prodigy who's searching for her birth father when she encounters a homeless veteran living in a redwood forest in Northern California. Cast: Rainbow Dickerson, Alex Leydenfrost, Michelle Mountain. 8 p.m. (Wed.-Sat.), 3 p.m. (Wed. & Sat.), & 2 p.m. (Sun.), *Purple Rose Theatre*, 137 Park St., Chelsea. Tickets \$27 (Wed. & Thurs.), \$37 (Fri. eves. & weekend matinees), & \$42 (Sat. eves.) in advance at purplerosetheatre.org, and by phone. 433-7673.

Mike Green: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Feb. 27-Mar. 1. This popular comic, winner of the 2004 Michigan Comedy Survivor competition, performs with a nervous energy that regularly explodes into bizarre observations and goofy enlightenments about jumping rope, talking sirens, bar codes, and other pointless things you've never stopped to think about. "If you liked the kid in the lunchroom who made you spit milk out your nose, you'll love Mike Green," says the *Detroit Free Press*. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. 8 p.m. (Thurs.-Sat.) & 10:30 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 314 E. Liberty. \$7 (Thurs.) & \$10 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, \$9 (Thurs.) & \$12 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996-9080.

"Serious about Salsa" Latin Dance Party: Dance Revolution. Mar. 1 & 15 (tentative). High-energy dance party with salsa, merengue, bachata, and cha-cha dancing to music spun by a DJ. No partner necessary. Preceded by beginner (7 p.m.) and advanced (8 p.m.) salsa lessons. See facebook.com/A2DanceRevolution for updated schedule. 9 p.m.-1 a.m., *Phoenix Center*, 220 S. Main (above Elmo's). \$5 (\$8 includes lesson). (313) 808-0358.

"Lift Off": A2 Aviary. Aerial and acrobatic acts by A2 Aviary students. Also, art, music, refreshments, and an open bar. The program ends with a dance party. 9:30 p.m.-2 a.m. (doors open at 8 p.m.), *A2 Aviary*, 4720 S. State. \$5. 726-0353.

2 SUNDAY

"Winter Hike, Potluck, and Nature Photo Sharing": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission. A short hike followed by a potluck (bring a dish to pass) by the fireplace. Bring 10-15 photos on a disc or flash drive, if you wish. Note: Rescheduled from January. 10 a.m.-2 p.m., *Independence Lake County Park*, 3200 Jennings, north off North Territorial, Webster Twp. Free; \$5 park entry fee. 971-6337, ext. 334.

Drop-in Luminary Workshops: Workantile/Festifools. Every Sun. Local artists show how to make a lantern to carry in the FoolMoon processions on Apr. 4. Materials provided. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., *Workantile*, 118 S. Main. \$10 suggested donation. 763-7550.

Mature Singles: First Presbyterian Church. Every Sun. A weekly program open to all single adults interested in contemporary Christian topics, new ideas, personal growth, and social and physical activities. Mar. 2, 9, 16, & 30: First Presbyterian Church parish nurse Sandy Talbott presents a series of 4 talks on "Challenges for Aging Parents and Their Adult Children." Topics include "Aging: The Basics" (Mar. 2), "Resources for the Elderly" (Mar. 9), "End of Life Options and Decisions" (Mar. 16), and a Q&A with a panel of expert professionals who deal with the elderly. Mar. 23: Singing Tree Garden (Detroit) organic farm co-owner Emily Brent discusses "Urban Gardening." 11 a.m., *First Presbyterian Church Monteith Hall*, 1432 Washtenaw. Free. 662-4466, ext. 43.

H.A.C. Ultimate. Every Sun. All invited to a relaxed pickup game of this spirited team sport played

with a flying disc. Note: Overly competitive players are politely asked to leave. 11:15 a.m., *Mitchell Field* (Fuller Rd.) or just west of Fuller pool parking lot. Free. hac-ultimateist@googlegroups.com, 846-9418.

Salamander Survey Kickoff/Frog and Toad Survey Kickoff: Ann Arbor Natural Area Preservation. A chance to learn about the city's upcoming annual survey of the salamander (noon) and frog & toad (3 p.m.) populations in town. There are also training sessions (preregistration required) for volunteers to help with the survey. Also, on Mar. 15, a similar kickoff for a program of "Photo Monitoring" (10-11:30 a.m.) of natural areas restoration work, with preregistration required for the training session by Mar. 14. Noon-2 & 3-5:30 p.m., *Leslie Science Center*, 1831 Traver Rd. Free. 794-6627.

Ann Arbor Go Club. Every Sun. & Thurs. Players of all skill levels invited to play what's regarded as the world's most difficult board game. No partner necessary. Boards and stones provided. 1-6 p.m. (Sun.) & 7 p.m.-midnight (Thurs.), *Espresso Royale*, 322 S. State. Free. umich.edu/~goclub.

"Seuss Crafts": Ann Arbor District Library. All kids in grades K-5 invited to do a craft project based on a Dr. Seuss story. 1-3 p.m., *AADL multipurpose room*, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-8301.

"Engaging with Art": UMMA. Every Sun. Docents lead tours of the UMMA collection, with themes based on their interests. 1 p.m. *UMMA*, 525 S. State. Free. 764-0395.

"Comic Artists Forum": Ann Arbor District Library. Comics artist Jerzy Drozd, a contributing editor to the online comics anthology sugaryserials.com who has also worked on projects for Marvel Comics and Glencoe/McGraw-Hill, shows adults and teens in grade 6 & up how to use podcasting to reach new audiences for your webcomic. Participants also work on their own comics; materials provided. For adults and teens in grade 6 & up. 1-3 p.m., *AADL 4th-floor meeting room*, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4555.

Square Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Marlin Whitaker and others call to live music by the Kalamazoo band Bowhunter. Beginners welcome. No partner necessary. Wear clean, nonmarking shoes. Followed by a potluck. 2-5 p.m., *Pittsfield Grange*, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.), Saline. \$8 (students, \$5). 994-6494.

"Kerry Tales: March Up the Hill with Mother Goose": Kerrytown Shops. 30-minute family-oriented program of rhymes, riddles, and stories with local storyteller Trudy Bulkley as Mother Goose. 2 p.m., *Hollander's*, 410 N. Fourth Ave. (Kerrytown). Free. 769-3115.

"Cook-In": Baxter House B&B. Mar. 2, 9, & 23. Hands-on cooking demos (with taste samples) led by guest chefs. Kids age 10 & up welcome, if accompanied by an adult. Mar. 2: "Warm the Cookies of Your Heart with Marmalades, Curd, Crackers, and Scones," with "proper" and gluten-free scones, kumquat and grapefruit marmalades, and lemon curd. Mar. 9: "Pure Comfort Food: Hearty Polish Pierogis," with mashed potato, cheese, sauerkraut, and mushroom pierogis. Mar. 23: "Pasties and Pinch Pie Tartlets," with various pasty fillings and crusts and mincemeat and chocolate piquant pinch pies. 2-5:30 p.m., *Baxter House*, 719 N. Fourth Ave. \$30 (adult-child duo, \$40) materials fee. Reservations required. 474-5021.

"Doris Duke's Shangri La: Architecture, Landscape, and Islamic Art": UMMA. Mar. 2 & 9. Docent-guided tour of the current exhibit of ceramics, textiles, paintings, tile panels, architectural elements, photographs, and drawings by Islamic artists from tobacco heiress Duke's extensive collection. 2 p.m., *UMMA*, 525 S. State. Free. 764-0395.

"Natural Fibers in Historical Textiles": Pittsfield Township Historical Society. Talk by local weaver and historian Virginia Watson. Also, displays of fiber samples and brief demos of fiber preparations. 2 p.m., *Pittsfield Twp. Community Center*, 701 W. Ellsworth. Free. esalvette@gmail.com.

"Venus in Fur": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Saturday. 2 p.m.

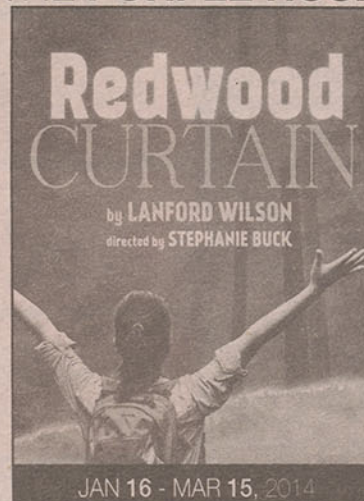
"Redwood Curtain": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 2 p.m.

"Oliver!": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 3 p.m.

A Taste of Ireland: First United Methodist Church Green Wood. Michigan Irish Musicians Association president David Bowen directs this group of Irish musicians in a program of Irish music. Reception follows. 3 p.m., *FUMC Green Wood*, 1001 Green Rd. Freewill offering. 662-4536, ext. 0.

"Escaping Winter": Dexter Community Band. Bill Gourley directs this 85-member volunteer ensemble in the "Flower Duet" from Delibes' opera *Lakme*, "Hoe-Down" from Copland's *Rodeo*, Toshio Mashima's sunny Italian daydream *Gelato con Caffé*, George Gates' Mexican excursion *Sol y Sombra*, and

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Create in me a clean heart, O God,
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Psalm 51:10



Ash Wednesday Worship - March 5
Intergenerational Service at 5:00 p.m.
Taizé Service at 7:30 p.m.



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"One for the Road" - Cornell University Study, December 2008

a Stephen Foster medley. 3 p.m., Dexter Center for the Performing Arts, Dexter High School, 2200 N. Parker, Dexter. Free. 426-2734.

★Sunday Sunsets: The Yellow Barn. Every Sun. except Mar. 30. All musicians invited to jam. Also, a potluck (bring a dish to share). 3:30-6:30 p.m., Yellow Barn, 416 W. Huron. Free. ouryellowbarn.com.

George Benson & The Speakeasy Quartet: Kerrytown Concert House. Jazz music by veteran Detroit jazz saxophonist Benson and the Canadian combo The Speakeasy Quartet, whose music blends hot jazz, swing, and pop from the 1920s and 1930s. 4 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$15-\$30 (students, \$5). Reservations recommended. 769-2999.

★"Louder Than a Bomb": The Neutral Zone. Poetry slam teams from across the state battle for a spot at the Michigan Youth Poetry Slam State Championships. 7 p.m., Neutral Zone, 310 E. Washington. Free. 214-9995.

Red Tail Ring: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Appalachian folk and old-time music with haunting vocal harmonies by the local duo of singer-songwriters Michael Beauchamp and Laurel Premo. 7-9:30 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.), Saline. \$12 (members, \$10). 769-1052, 274-0773.

★"Organ Concert": St. Andrew's Episcopal Church Music for Meditation. Cathedral Church of St. Paul (Detroit) choirmaster Jeremy David Tarrant, a widely acclaimed organist, performs organ works by Mendelssohn, Duruflé, and Bach. 7:15-8 p.m., St. Andrew's, 306 N. Division. Free. 662-4466.

★"Like Dreamers: The Story of the Israeli Paratroopers Who Reunited Jerusalem and Divided a Nation": Temple Beth Emeth Evening in the Library. All invited to discuss Yossi Klein Halevi's book. 7:30-9 p.m., TBE, 2309 Packard. Free, but reservations required via email to the_library@templebethemeth.org. 665-4744.

"One Hundred Years: An Evening of Contemporary Wind Music": Kerrytown Concert House. The local musical trio of flutist Dennis Carter, clarinetist Lisa Raschiatore, and pianist Mariah Mlynarek performs classical woodwind compositions from the past century, including works by Debussy, Lowell Liebermann, and Villa-Lobos, as well as rarely heard pieces by Copland and Andre Jolivet. The trio is joined by talented local soprano Jennifer Goltz in U-M music professor Evan Chambers' Atonement. 7:30 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$10-\$25 (students, \$5). Reservations recommended. 769-2999.

Ann Arbor Poetry Slam. Every Sun. All poets invited to compete in a poetry slam judged by a randomly chosen panel from the audience. Participants compete for points to qualify for an April Slam-Off to determine the team that will represent Ann Arbor in the National Poetry Slam held in Oakland (CA) in August. The program begins with a brief poetry open mike and (usually) a short set by a featured poet. 8-11 p.m. (sign-up begins at 7:30 p.m.), Silvio's, 715 North University. \$5 suggested donation. 985-0736.

Ballroom Dance Club at the U-M. Every Sun. Ballroom dancing to recorded music, including fox-trots, waltzes, cha-chas, rumbas, tangos, swing, and more. No partner necessary. Preceded at 7 p.m. by beginning lessons and practice. 8-10 p.m., Michigan League Ballroom (Mar. 2), Michigan Union Rogel Ballroom (Mar. 9, 16, & 30), & Michigan League Vandenberg Room (Mar. 23). \$5 (\$10 includes lessons). 763-6984.

3 MONDAY

"Tiny Tots: Dr. Seuss on the Loose": Leslie Science and Nature Center. All kids ages 1-3 (accompanied by a caregiver) invited to decorate a truffle tree and make Yurtle the Turtle towers. Snacks provided; dress for the outdoors. 10-11:30 a.m., LSNC, 1831 Traver Rd. \$7. 997-1553.

★Weekly Rehearsal: Women's Chamber Chorus. Every Mon. Jan. 6-Apr. 28. All invited to join this independent 30-member local women's chorus to sing everything from Bach and Hungarian folk songs to madrigals and pop tunes. David Perampall direct. 10-11:30 a.m., West Side United Methodist Church, 900 S. Seventh. Free to visitors (\$100 per semester dues for those who join). 665-9271.

★"Playgroups for Babies": Ann Arbor District Library. Every Mon. Playgroup for kids up to 24 months, accompanied by an adult. No older siblings. Note: Play days are also offered at the Malletts Creek (Tues. 10-11 a.m. & Thurs. 6:30-7:30 p.m.), Pittsfield (Wed. 11 a.m.-noon), and Traverwood (Fri. 10:30-11 a.m.) branches. 10:30-11:30 a.m., AADL, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-8301.

★Bridge: U-M Turner Senior Wellness Program. Every Mon. & Fri. All seniors invited to play bridge. Some experience necessary. 12:30-4:30 p.m., Turner

Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998-9353.

Duplicate Bridge: Ann Arbor Senior Center. Every Mon., Wed., & Thurs. All ages invited to play non-sanctioned (Mon.) and ACBL-sanctioned (Wed. & Thurs.) duplicate bridge. Bring a partner. 12:30-4 p.m. (Mon.) & Noon-3:45 p.m. (Wed. & Thurs.), Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. \$7 (members, \$6) on Wed. & Thurs., \$3 (members, \$2) on Mon. 794-6250.

Social Mah-Jongg: Ann Arbor Senior Center. Every Mon. & Thurs. All ages invited to play this intricate game that uses colorful tiles. Lunch available at 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. (\$5.50; age 60 & over, \$3; reservations required). 1-3:30 p.m. (Mon.) & 1-2:30 p.m. (Thurs.), Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. \$2 (members, free). 794-6250.

★ESL Conversation Group: Ann Arbor District Library. Every Mon., Tues., Wed., & Fri. All levels of English speakers invited for conversation. 1-2:30 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch (Mon.), 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor-Saline Rd.; 7-8:30 p.m., AADL Traverwood Branch (Tues. & Wed.), 3333 Traverwood at Huron Pkwy.; & 1-2:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch (Fri.), 3090 E. Eisenhower between Stone School & Packard. Free. 327-4200.

★"Ann Arbor Downtown Group Run": Running Fit. Every Mon. Runners of all abilities invited to join a weekly run, 3-8 miles, along varying routes. Snacks provided. Rain/snow or shine. 6:30 p.m., Running Fit, 123 E. Liberty. Free. 769-5016.

Tartan & Thistle Scottish Country Dancers. Every Mon. Jigs, reels, and strathspeys. Usually with live music. All dances taught; beginners welcome. 7:30-9:30 p.m., the Barn at Gretchen's House V, 2625 Traver. \$5. 395-7782, 769-1052, 426-0241.

4 TUESDAY (MARDI GRAS)

Preschool Story Time: Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum. Every Tues. All preschoolers, accompanied by an adult, invited for stories. Followed by a science activity. 9-10 a.m., AAHOM, 220 E. Ann. \$11 regular admission (members & kids under age 2, free). 995-5439.

★Preschool Storytimes: Ann Arbor District Library. Every Tues. & Wed. Stories and songs for kids ages 2-5 (accompanied by an adult). Note: These storytimes are also offered at the Traverwood (Tues. 11-11:30 a.m., Wed. 6-6:30 p.m., & Thurs. 10-10:30 a.m.), Malletts Creek (Wed. 10-10:30 a.m.), and Pittsfield (Thurs. 7-7:30 p.m. & Fri. 10-10:30 a.m.) branches. 10-10:30 a.m. (Tues.) & 11-11:30 a.m. (Wed.), AADL youth department story room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-8301.

Scrabble: Ann Arbor Senior Center. Every Tues. All ages invited to play this popular word game. Lunch available for \$5.50 (age 60 & over, \$3) at 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.; reservations required. 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. \$2 (members, free). 794-6250.

Newcomers Coterie Club of Ann Arbor. Detroit Medical Center otolaryngology professor James Dworkin discusses "Voice Changes in the Elderly." All newcomers to the area, as well as longtime Ann Arbor area residents, invited. The program begins with lunch. 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m., Polo Fields Golf & Country Club, 5200 Polo Fields Dr. (off Zeeb Rd. north of Liberty), Scio Twp. \$18. Preregistration required via email to highjs1@gmail.com. 929-2841.

★"Musical Meditations": Temple Beth Emeth/St. Clare's Episcopal Church. Every Tues. TBE cantor Annie Rose and St. Clare's music director John Goodell collaborate on musical programs TBA. 5:30-6:15 p.m., TBE/St. Clare's, 2309 Packard. Free. 665-4744.

★Tuesday Dinner Ride: Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. Every Tues. Ten- to 20-mile ride, at various paces, along the well-maintained Border-to-Border Trail, to a restaurant in either Ann Arbor or Ypsilanti. Front & back lights required, reflective clothing strongly recommended. 6 p.m., meet at Wheels in Motion, 3400 Washtenaw. Free. 678-8297, 971-2121.

★Story Time: Bookbound. Every Tues. & Thurs. Linda Zimmer reads stories for kids age 6 & under. 6 p.m. (Tues.) & 10:30 a.m. (Thurs.), Bookbound, 1729 Plymouth, Courtyard Shops. Free. 369-4345.

★Spanish Readers Group: Nicola's Books. All invited to join a discussion, in Spanish, of Señales que Precederán al Fin del Mundo, Yuri Herrera's novel about a young Mexican girl searching for her missing brother along the U.S.-Mexico borderlands. 6:45 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662-0600.

"NOLA Creole Dinner": Zingerman's Roadhouse. Chef Alex Young hosts a meal featuring New Orleans creole recipes. 7 p.m., Zingerman's Road-

theater



Into the Wild

Redwood Curtain

A little shorty of a play at Purple Rose clocking in at an hour and fifteen minutes, no intermission, is for all its brevity a hefty piece. You know how one-acts sometimes seem so light and trivial that they don't demand much of your attention? Or they're so weird and experimental that you feel you've done your bit just by showing up? Neither is the case here.

Designer Vincent Mountain's towering, moist glen in northern California—with steam rising and luminous green moss creeping over everything—is the setting for the late Lanford Wilson's (*Hot I Baltimore*) 1993 play, which opens with a confrontation between a feral Vietnam vet named Lyman (Alex Leydenfrost) and a clever and city-pampered teenage hiker named Geri (Rainbow Dickerson).

At the time the play was written, the redwood forests around Eureka were host to a number of traumatized Vietnam vets who would come down from the woods to lurk around the coffee shops, cadge a few supplies, and disappear again. Geri has followed this one into the woods and whines around him like a mosquito, pelting him with questions. She thinks he may be her father.

He may or may not be, and I won't give away the secret, but I will say that it's not a slobbery, sentimental Hallmark-card story. The plot is rich with unpredictability, but Wilson is a good storyteller who can whack a strong path through a thicket of his own creation.

The silver-haired, debonair Leydenfrost makes a surprisingly believable vagrant, and Michelle Mountain is fine, as usual, in the piece's third role—an aunt, who is mainly needed to help unpack a lot of the dense narrative. Dickerson takes on the complicated role of a half-Vietnamese girl adopted into a wealthy Caucasian California family who develops into a musical prodigy. I want to say that for a lot of this play, I questioned what seemed to be her limited range—method, shmethod, she was too much like a real teenager, with only two notes: the monotonous whine and the screaming, melodramatic temper tantrum. And I also questioned (still do, actually) why Wilson felt he also needed to give her paranormal powers. And yet, when she takes the last scene to its climax in a kind of remarkable incantation, all bets are off. It's a great moment of theater.

The play runs through March 15.

—Sally Mitani

house, 2501 Jackson. \$65 (beverages not included). Space limited; reservations required. 663-FOOD.

English Country Dancing: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Every Tues. Historical and traditional English dancing to live music. All dances taught. No partner or experience needed. Bring flat, nonslip shoes (running shoes OK). First-timers are asked to arrive at 7 p.m. 7-9:30 p.m., Chapel Hill Condominium clubhouse, 3350 Green Rd. (park on Burbank). \$8 (students, \$4; kids age 13 & under with a parent, free). 665-7704.

***Theology on Tap: St. Francis of Assisi Young Adult Ministry.** The church's new pastor, Father James Conlon, introduces himself and discusses his vocation. Q&A. Socializing. For young adults in their 20s & 30s. 7-9 p.m., Arbor Brewing Co., 114 E. Washington. Free. 821-2126.

***Weekly Rehearsal: Treetown Community Chorus.** Every Tues. All invited to join this fun-loving independent local mixed chorus to sing mostly familiar tunes, along with some serious music, in various genres. David Perample directs. 7-9 p.m., West Side United Methodist Church, 900 S. Seventh. Free to visitors (\$80 per semester dues for those who join). 355-7738.

***"The Influence of Biodynamic Agriculture from the Cosmos to the Soil": Great Lakes Branch of the Anthroposophical Society in America.** Panel discussion with Community Farm of Ann Arbor farmers Annie Elder, Karen Chalmer, Kristin Van Vliet, Melissa Robertson, and Matthew Lynch. 7:30 p.m., Rudolf Steiner House, 1923 Geddes Ave. Free. 276-5294.

***Ann Arbor Camera Club.** Mar 4 & 18. Mar. 4: Argus Museum curator Cheryl Chidester discusses "Argus Camera History." Mar. 18: Wisconsin photographer Byron Annis shows his photos of "Cuba." Also, club members show their recent projected digital images (Mar. 4) and prints (Mar. 18), including this month's assignment, "Shadows." 7:30 p.m., Wines School auditorium (Mar. 4), 1701 Newport, & Forsythe Middle School media center (Mar. 18), 1655 Newport. Free (\$25 annual dues for those who join). 327-4781.

***German Speakers Round Table.** Every Tues. All German speakers invited for conversation. 8-10 p.m., Grizzly Peak Brewing Company, 120 W. Washington. Free admission. 453-2394.

5 WEDNESDAY

"American Blues: History, Style, and Context": Ann Arbor City Club Lunch & Learn. Talk by U-M American culture professor Bruce Conforth, the 1st curator of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. The program begins with lunch. 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., AACC, 1830 Washtenaw. \$30 (members, \$25). Reservations required by Feb. 28. 662-3279, ext. 1.

***Chess: U-M Turner Senior Wellness Program.** Every Wed. All seniors invited to play chess. Refreshments. 1-4 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998-9353.

***"Nature Outing for Kids": Green Apple Garden Playschool.** A GAGP environmental educator leads kids ages 1-5, accompanied by an adult, on an educational hike around the pond. Bring any snacks or



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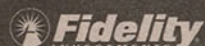
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drinks you may need. 3 p.m., Olson Park, 1551 Dhu Varren. Free. 369-8248.

Lenten Fish Dinner: St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church. Mar. 5 & every Fri. Mar. 7-Apr. 11. Fried cod, baked tilapia, homemade mac & cheese, green beans, roasted red potatoes, French fries, salad bar, rolls with butter, and beverages. Fish sticks and grilled cheese available for kids. Homemade clam chowder & desserts (\$2 each). 5-7:30 p.m., St. Francis Parish Activities Center, 2250 E. Stadium. \$10 (seniors age 62 & over, \$9; kids age 6-11, \$5; kids age 5 & under, free). 769-2550.

Scrabble: Ann Arbor Scrabble Club. Every Wed. Word freaks of all abilities invited to drop in to play this popular word game. Bring your own set, if you like. 5-8 p.m., Arbor Brewing Co., 114 E. Washington. Free. 994-0084, 277-7748.

Bingo: Ann Arbor Senior Center. Every Wed. All invited to play bingo. Cash prizes. 6-10 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. \$2 admission. \$9 per game. 769-5911.

"Ann Arbor West Group Run": Running Fit. Every Wed. Runners of all abilities invited to join a weekly run, 3-8 miles, along varying routes. Snacks provided. Rain/snow or shine. 6:30 p.m., Running Fit, 5700 Jackson. Free. 929-9022.

"Prince Igor": Quality 16. See 1 Saturday. 6:30-11 p.m.

Ann Arbor Bridge Club. Every Wed. All invited to play ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge. If you plan to come without a partner, call in advance or arrive 20 minutes early. 7-11 p.m., Walden Hills clubhouse, 2114 Pauline west of Maple. (Park in the designated spaces in the lot on the north side of Pauline.) \$6 per person. 623-8050.

Red Tail Ring and Sam Corbin: On the Tracks Singer-Songwriter Showcase. Performances by these 2 area acts, who also talk about their music. Red Tail Ring is the local duo of singer-songwriters Michael Beauchamp and Laurel Premo, who play Appalachian folk and old-time music with haunting vocal harmonies. Corbin is a Lansing pop-folk singer-songwriter whose influences range from Leonard Cohen to Bob Dylan. 7-9 p.m., Chelsea Depot, 12 Jackson, Chelsea. \$15 suggested donation. Info: call Annie Capps at 330-5226.

History of Books & Printing Reading Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers. All invited to discuss *Thieves of Book Row*, Travis McDade's engaging account of a Depression-era heist in the rare book room of the New York Public Library. 7:30-9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669-0451.

Visitors Night: Ann Arbor Model Railroad Club. All invited to check out the trains whizzing around on the club's big, elaborate layout, housed in a depot restored by the club. 7:30-10 p.m., Michigan Central depot, 3487 Broad, Dexter. Free. 426-5100.

"Introduction to Steiner's Thought": Great Lakes Branch of the Anthroposophical Society in America. Every Wed. All invited to join a discussion of Rudolf Steiner's *How to Know Higher Worlds*. 7:30 p.m., Rudolf Steiner House, 1923 Geddes Ave. Free. 485-3764.

"Redwood Curtain": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Every Wed. Performances by up to 12 aspiring area stand-up comics. Alcohol is served. 8 p.m., 314 E. Liberty. \$5 in advance and at the door. 996-9080.

Open Dancing: Swing Ann Arbor. Every Wed. Swing dancing to recorded music. No partner needed. Bring casual or nicer shoes that stay on your feet when you're active. Preceded at 8 p.m. by a lesson. Followed at 11 p.m. by "Late Night @ Silvio's" swing dancing (see Nightspots). 9-11 p.m., Mason Hall Room TBA (Mar. 5) & Michigan Union Pendleton Room (all other dates), \$5 (students, \$4; \$1 discount for members). 945-8428.

6 THURSDAY

Adults Thursday: Jewish Community Center. Every Thurs. A weekly program of activities primarily for seniors. The program begins at 10 a.m. with "Energy Exercise" (\$4), a 60-minute exercise program led by Maria Farquhar. An 11 a.m. Current Events discussion group led by Heather Dombey is followed at noon by a homemade dairy lunch (\$3) and at 1 p.m. by a cultural or educational program. Mar. 6: Jewish Family Services interns Shana Lossing and Katrina Dale discuss a topic TBA. Mar. 13: EMU political science professor Jeff Bernstein and English professor Martin Schichtman, who co-taught the travel course "Becoming Jewish in America," are joined by some of their students to discuss their experiences traveling through East Coast cities exploring their Jewish heritage. Mar. 20: Ann Arborite Matt Smallish, an army staff sergeant who recently returned from a tour in Afghanistan, discusses his experiences in Iraq and Afghanistan. Mar. 27: TBA.

10 a.m.-3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971-0990.

"A Course in Miracles": Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth. Every Thurs. Local social worker Lorraine Coburn leads a study group on this popular Foundation for Inner Peace metaphysical book. Noon-1:30 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd. Free. 646-6585.

Gifts of Art: U-M Hospitals. Mar. 6: Piano jazz by the Pete Siers Trio. Mar. 13: Cello and violin music by U-M String Preparatory Academy students. Mar. 20: Irish music by flutist Tracy Kash Thomas and guitarist Pat Shanley. Mar. 27: Vintage swing by the Royal Garden Trio. 12:10 p.m., U-M Hospital Main Lobby, 1500 E. Medical Center Dr. (off Fuller). Free. 936-ARTS.

"Lenten Meditation": First Baptist Church Coffee Break Concert Series. The church's organist Shin-Ae Chun and local singer/reader Imani Mc-hunu perform Brahms' Eleven Chorale Preludes. 12:15 p.m., First Baptist Church, 517 E. Washington. Free. 663-9376.

"Creating an Energy Efficient Home from A to Z: Existing, Remodel, Addition, or New": WCC. Talk by local architect Michael Klement. 6 p.m., 202 WCC Great Lakes Center, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. petty@wccnet.edu.

"Ann Arbor East Group Run": Running Fit. Every Thurs. Runners of all abilities invited to join a weekly run, 3-8 miles, along varying routes. Snacks provided. Rain/snow or shine. 6:30 p.m., Running Fit, 3010 Washtenaw. Free. 548-6299.

Euchre Night: Out Loud Chorus Fundraiser. All invited to compete in a euchre tournament. 7 p.m., CUBS' AC in Colonial Lanes, 1950 South Industrial. \$10. 973-6084, 663-0036.

ACBL Bridge: Ann Arbor City Club. Every Thurs. All invited to play ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge. No partner required. 7 p.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. \$7. 761-6691.

"Emerging Writers: Red Pens & Rewrites": Ann Arbor District Library. Local young adult fiction writer Lara Zielin and short fiction writer Margaret Yang show adults and teens in grade 6 & up how to polish their writing. 7-8:45 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-8301.

"Arches National Park, Utah": Huron Hills Lapidary and Mineral Society. DVD screening. 7 p.m., West Side United Methodist Church social hall, 900 S. Seventh St. Free. 665-5574.

Stephan Pastis: Nicola's Books. This creator of the acclaimed *Pearls Before Swine* comic strip reads *Timmy Failure: Now Look What You've Done*, the 2nd in his children's series about a comically self-confident kid detective. Signing. 7 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662-0600.

Comhaltas. Every Thurs. All invited to join members of this local chapter of the Detroit Irish Music Association for an informal evening playing traditional Irish music on various instruments. Lessons offered. 7:30-9:30 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. Free. 255-5310.

"Venus in Fur": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Saturday. 7:30 p.m.

Juanito Pascual Trio: Kerrytown Concert House. Trio led by internationally respected flamenco guitarist Pascual, a Minneapolis native whose sound blends traditional and contemporary flamenco with influences ranging from Jimi Hendrix and the Grateful Dead to Miles Davis and Bach. With percussionist Tupac Mantilla and acoustic bassist Brad Barrett. 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$10-\$25 (students, \$5). Reservations recommended. 769-2999.

"Scapino!": Concordia University. Mar. 6-9. Gerry Dzuibinski directs students in his adaptation of Molière's farce *Les Fourberies de Scapin* ("Scapin's Deceits"). In Dzuibinski's version, Scapino is an enterprising corporate employee who works for a junior executive, moonlights for another, and finds ways to extract money from their preoccupied CEO fathers. 8 p.m. (Mar. 6-8) & 2 p.m. (Mar. 9), Concordia University Kreft Center Black Box Theater, 4090 Geddes. Tickets \$10 (students & seniors, \$5). 995-4612.

"Coyote on a Fence": PTD Productions. Mar. 6-9 & 13-15. Mark F. Batell directs local actors in Bruce Graham's drama about the relationship between 2 death row inmates, one an arrogant intellectual and the other a young, naïve, and psychotic racist. Based on the real-life story of Texas death row inmate James Beathard. Cast: Carl Hanna, Rick Katon, Jenna Hinton, Mary Hopper. 8 p.m. (except Mar. 9, 2 p.m.), Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. Tickets \$18 (students & seniors, \$12) in advance at ptdproductions.com and by phone or email. info@ptdproductions.com, 483-7345.

"Redwood Curtain": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 8 p.m.

Al Jackson: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Mar. 6-8. This 7th-grade teacher-turned-comic is a ubiquitous presence on both MTV and Comedy Central known for edgy, hard-nosed observational humor delivered with a laid-back swagger and a beaming smile. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. 8 p.m. (Thurs.-Sat.) & 10:30 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 314 E. Liberty. \$9 (Thurs.) & \$12 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, \$11 (Thurs.) & \$14 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996-9080.

7 FRIDAY

★**"Rabbi Levy's Lunch and Learn": Temple Beth Emeth.** Mar. 7, 14, & 28. Rabbi Robert Levy leads an informal discussion about the intersection between religion and science. Bring a bag lunch. Noon-1 p.m., TBE Adult Lounge, 2309 Packard. Free. 665-4744.

36th Annual Lenten Fish Fry: Old St. Patrick's Church. Every Fri., Mar. 7-Apr. 11. Fried Alaskan pollack, choice of potato or macaroni & cheese, salad bar, and beverage. Desserts available for a nominal additional charge. Beer & wine available by donation. Be prepared to stand in line, but the food is worth the wait. 4:30-7:30 p.m., Old St. Pat's parish hall, 5671 Whitmore Lake Rd. at Northfield Church (3 miles north of Ann Arbor). \$9 (seniors, \$8; children 5-11, \$6; children 4 & under, free). 662-8141.

★**Lenten Organ Concert Series: American Guild of Organists.** Every Fri. & Apr. 11. Concerts by AGO members and their students. 5:15 p.m., First Congregational Church, 608 E. William. Free. 604-3205.

First Friday Shabbat: Ann Arbor Jewish Cultural Society. All invited for dinner, preceded by a brief Shabbat observance with songs, candle lighting, wine and challah, and discussion on a theme TBA. Children welcome. 6:30-9 p.m., Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). \$10 (family, \$25). Reservations required at jewishculturalsociety.org. 975-9872.

U-M Women's Gymnastics vs. UCLA and Utah. The U-M also hosts a meet this month with Iowa, Minnesota, and Penn State (Mar. 15, 1:30 p.m.). 7 p.m., Crisler Center. \$7 (youth & seniors, \$5). 764-0247.

Dances of Universal Peace (Sufi Dancing). All invited to join in song, chant, and circle dances in joyous affirmation of the unity of the world's spiritual traditions. 7-9 p.m., Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill. \$5 requested donation. 663-2037.

★**Rhys Bowen: Aunt Agatha's.** This English mystery writer discusses *City of Darkness and Light*, the latest in her Agatha-winning series of mysteries featuring PI Molly Murphy, a young Irish immigrant living in early 20th-century New York. This time she and her husband, a NYC police captain, are visiting Paris, where she had planned to stay with friends studying art until she discovers they have mysteriously disappeared. Signing. 7 p.m., Aunt Agatha's, 213 S. Fourth Ave. Free. 769-1114.

★**"Vintage Hollywood V": Neutral Zone Fundraiser.** A gala with performances by local teens and screenings of film shorts. Food & drinks, a photo booth, a silent auction, and more. Gatsby attire encouraged. Note: This event usually sells out. 7 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$50 in advance at neutral-zone.org or by phone; \$55 at the door. 214-9995, ext. 223.

★**"Rock the 80s Skate": Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation Funky Frosty Friday.** All invited to wear spandex and skate to hair bands and monster ballads. 7:15-8:45 p.m., Buhr Park Ice Rink, 2751 Packard. \$6 (youths age 17 & under and seniors age 60 & over, \$5). \$1 discount for city residents. Skate rentals available (\$3). 761-7240.

★**Rudolf Steiner Study Circle of Ann Arbor.** Mar. 7 & 21. All invited to join an ongoing discussion of Steiner's *The Gospel of St. John*. Familiarity with Rudolf Steiner's basic ideas is helpful. 7:30-9:30 p.m., location TBA (Mar. 7) & Rudolf Steiner House (Mar. 21), 1923 Geddes. Free. 944-4903.

Lee Murdock: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). This veteran Great Lakes troubadour writes songs about the lives of sailors and fishermen, lighthouse keepers, ghosts, outlaws, and everyday heroes. His music blends ragtime, Irish, blues, and folk styles, and he accompanies himself on 6- and 12-string guitars. 8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. \$15 (kids 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 665-8558.

The Harmony: The Yellow Barn. Performance by this Indianapolis-based R&B-pop singer-songwriter. 8 p.m., Yellow Barn, 416 W. Huron. \$10 (Yellow Card or Pink Punch Card holders, free), ouryellowbarn.com.

★**"Venus in Fur": Performance Network Professional Season.** See 1 Saturday. 8 p.m.

★**"Coyote on a Fence": PTD Productions.** See 6 Thursday. 8 p.m.

★**"Scapino?": Concordia University.** See 6 Thursday. 8 p.m.

★**"Redwood Curtain": Purple Rose Theatre Company.** See 1 Saturday. 8 p.m.

★**Al Jackson: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase.** See 6 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

★**"Friday Night Swing (& Blues)": Ann Arbor Swing Dance Association/Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance.** Every Fri. Lindy hop, East Coast swing, Charleston, and Balboa dancing to music spun by DJs. Followed at 11:30 p.m. by blues dancing. No partner needed. Preceded at 8 p.m. by beginning lessons. 9 p.m.-1:30 a.m., Phoenix Center, 220 S. Main. \$5 (students with ID, \$3; \$1 discount for AACTMAD members) includes lessons. 417-9857.

★**"Pirate Swing": Swing Ann Arbor.** Mar. 7-9. 3 nights of swing dancing to live music by sought-after lindy hop pianist Gordon Webster (Mar. 7 & 8) and vocalist Naomi Uyama (Mar. 8) and to recorded music spun by a DJ (Mar. 9). For experienced swing dancers. Pirate costumes encouraged. Dances are preceded each day by swing workshops. 9 p.m.-midnight (Mar. 7 & 8) & 8 p.m.-late evening (Mar. 9); 4531 Concourse Dr. (Mar. 7 & 9), off S. State across from the airport; Michigan Union Ballroom (Mar. 8). \$25 (Mar. 7 & 8) & \$3 suggested donation (Mar. 9). pirateswing.com.

8 SATURDAY

★**"March Morning Bird Walk": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission.** WCPARC naturalist Faye Stoner leads a hike to look for bluebirds, woodpeckers, sparrows, and other birds. Bring binoculars and a field guide, if you have them. 8-10 a.m., Rolling Hills County Park (meet at the lodge parking lot), 7660 Stony Creek Rd., Ypsilanti Twp. \$5 vehicle entry fee. 971-6337, ext. 334.

★**Eco-Restoration Workday: U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Nichols Arboretum.** Mar. 8 & 15. All invited to help Matthaei staff members remove invasive plants. Dress for outdoor work. Tools provided, or bring your own. Note: Kids age 15 & under must be accompanied by an adult. Youth ages 16-18 must submit a permission form. 9 a.m.-noon, meet at the Arb Reader Center (Mar. 8), 1610 Washington Hts., & Matthaei (Mar. 15), 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free (metered parking at Matthaei). Preregistration required by phone or email. tgriffit@umich.edu, 647-8528.

Huron Gun Collectors. Mar. 8 & 9. About 100 dealers and collectors offer guns, knives, ammunition, and other hunting equipment for sale, including antiques and collectibles. Concessions. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. (Sat.) & 9 a.m.-3 p.m. (Sun.), Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd., Saline. Admission \$4. (517) 605-0624.

Greater Ann Arbor Quilt Guild. Talk by Macomb Twp. quilter Carol Loessel, who makes quilts from scrap fabric. Followed at 11 a.m. by a member show & tell. 9:45 a.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. \$10 (members, free). (248) 349-7322.

★**"Dancing Babies": Ann Arbor District Library.** KinderRock (Saline) teacher Melissa Hudson leads infants through 5-year-olds (accompanied by an adult) in a dancing program. 10-10:40 a.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Free. 327-8301.

★**"Fairy Gardens at Matthaei": U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens.** Mar. 8 & 15. All kids, accompanied by a parent, invited to make a fairy garden to take home. 10 a.m.-noon, Matthaei, 1800 N. Dixboro. \$10 per child (includes materials); metered parking. Preregistration recommended. 647-7600.

Waterloo Natural History Association. Mar. 8, 16, 23, & 30. Mar. 8 (10 a.m.-4 p.m.): "Maple Sugar Festival." Following a screening of the film *Maple Sugar Farmer*, WNHA naturalists explain DIY maple syrup-making techniques and lead a short walk to show how to identify maple syrup trees and demonstrate tree-tapping techniques. Also a pancake breakfast with maple syrup (\$6), 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the American Legion Post 31, 1700 Ridge Rd. Mar. 16 (2-3 p.m.): "Michigan's Rattler." DNR wildlife biologist Kristin Bissell displays a live massasauga rattlesnake and discusses its biology, habitat, and behaviors. Mar. 23 (2-3:30 p.m.): "Build Your Own Telescope." Local astronomy buff Meg Gower helps participants make their own telescopes. Materials fee: \$8. Mar. 30 (2-3 p.m.): "Live from Australia." Representatives from the local Creature Conservancy display and discuss some of their wild animals from Australia, including a kangaroo, a wallaby, and a kookaburra. Various times, Eddy Discovery Center lower parking lot (except as noted), Bush Rd. (west off Pierce Rd. from I-94 exit 157), Chelsea. \$2 (families, \$5); the Maple Sugar Festival is free. Space limited; preregistration required. \$10 annual vehicle entrance fee. 475-3170.

★**Remote-Controlled Car Racing: Washtenaw RC Raceway.** One of the largest regular gatherings of RC racers in the country features off-road dirt-




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March 12 - 4:00pm
7th Annual Gramlich Showcase of Student Work
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March 17 - 2:30pm
Health Policy Panel with Jonathan Cohn and Avik Roy
(Annenberg Auditorium, Weill Hall)

March 25 - 4:00pm
Policy Talks @ the Ford School with Kevyn Orr, Emergency Manager of the City of Detroit
(Michigan Union Ballroom)

March 26 - 4:00pm
Policy Talks @ the Ford School with Acting Director of the Peace Corps Carrie Hessler-Radelet
(Annenberg Auditorium, Weill Hall)

March 27 - 4:30pm
20 Years after the Rwandan Genocide with Paul Rusesabagina (Racham Auditorium)

March 31 - 4:00pm
Policy Talks @ the Ford School with Towsley Foundation Polymaker in Residence Ambassador Richard Boucher
(Annenberg Auditorium, Weill Hall)

For more information: 734-615-9691 or fspp-events@umich.edu

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track racing for stock and modified model electric trucks and buggies. Awards for the top three finishers in each class. Spectators welcome. Food concessions. 10:30 a.m.–midnight, Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Doors open at 8 a.m. Free admission. \$16 to race. (517) 960-5252.

★**"Make Some Music": Ecology Center of Ann Arbor.** All invited to make a musical instrument from trash. Followed by guided tours of the city's recycling and trash disposal center; closed-toed shoes and long pants required for the tour. 10 & 11:30 a.m., Materials Recovery Facility, 4120 Platt Rd. Free. Preregistration required for groups of 5 or more. 369-9272.

★**"Michigan Mammals by Skulls and Skins": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission.** Naturalists John Russell and Faye Stoner discuss how to identify skulls and the adaptations that allow Michigan mammals to survive. Also, a chance to handle pelts of various animals. For kids age 7–11 (1–2 p.m., accompanied by an adult) and all age 12 & up (2:30–4 p.m.). 1 & 2:30 p.m., County Farm Park Field Operations Bldg., Platt Rd. entrance. Free. Preregistration required. stonerf@ewashtenaw.org, 971-6337, ext. 334.

★**"Critters Up Close!": Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum.** Mar. 8 & 9. Leslie Science and Nature Center staff show live animals. Also, animal-oriented hands-on activities. 1–4 p.m., AAHOM Michigan Nature Gallery, 220 E. Ann. \$11 regular admission (members & kids under age 2, free). 995-5439.

★**"Isabelle, Girl of the Year 2014": Barnes & Noble.** All girls ages 8–12 invited to learn about the new American Girl doll Isabelle Palmer, the books about her love for dance, and her forthcoming movie *Isabelle Dances into the Spotlight*. Also, related crafts, puzzles, and other activities. 2 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973-1618.

★**"Ribbon Crafts: Animal": Ann Arbor District Library.** All adults and teens in grade 6 & up invited to learn how to make colorful animal figures out of ribbon for hair clips, pins, and other uses. Supplies provided. 2–3 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327-8301.

★**"Free to Learn: How Children Educate Themselves Through Play": Ann Arbor District Library.** Talk by Boston College psychology research professor Peter Gray, a nationally known childhood expert. 2–3:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4555.

★**"Storytelling with Computer Animation: Creating a Character": Ann Arbor District Library.** Adults and youth in grades 5 & up invited to learn to use programming technology to create animated characters. 3–5 p.m., AADL training center, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-8301.

★**"Stop, Thief!": Bookbound.** University of Toledo history professor Peter Linebaugh discusses his new acclaimed book of essays about natural commons and the ways they have historically been abused and reclaimed by various groups. Signing. 3 p.m., Bookbound, 1729 Plymouth, Courtyard Shops. Free. 369-4345.

★**Sharon Kay Penman: Nicola's Books.** This best-selling and critically acclaimed historical novelist reads from *A King's Ransom*, her new novel that tells the story of Richard the Lionheart's last years and his mother Eleanor of Aquitaine's efforts to raise the exorbitant ransom needed to free him from imprisonment. Signing. 4 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662-0600.

International Folk Dancing: Ann Arbor Folkdancers. Balkan and Scandinavian dancing to live music by Veselba. No partner needed; beginners welcome. 7–10 p.m., the barn at Gretchen's House V, 2625 Traver. \$10–\$15 (students, \$3–\$5). 709-8748.

20th Annual Winter Hometown Concert: Saline Fiddlers. Bluegrass and high-energy American folk by this renowned touring student fiddle ensemble. Guest headliner is jazz and bluegrass violinist **Matt Glaser**, the longtime Berklee College of Music chair who has performed with everyone from Yo-Yo Ma to Bob Dylan. Glaser is joined by Berklee guitar professor **Jon Wheatley** and bassist (and Berklee student) **Britanny Karlson**. 7 p.m. (tentative), Saline High School Auditorium, 1300 Campus Pkwy., Saline. Tickets \$13 & \$18 (\$5 discount for students age 17 & under) in advance at muto.umich.edu & by phone. 763-8587.

Itamar Zorman & Pauline Martin: Kerrytown Concert House. Israeli violinist Zorman and Detroit-based pianist Martin—both internationally recognized soloists—perform Bach's *Unaccompanied Sonata in C*, Brahms' *Sonata no. 3 in D minor*, Gernsheim's *Sonata no. 4*, and Ravel's *Tzigane*. 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$15–\$30 (students, \$5). Reservations recommended. 769-2999.

Tom Mabe: Michigan Firehouse Museum 7th Annual Comedy Jam. This comic from Louisville (KY) first gained attention through *Revenge on the*



The Act of Killing

"A documentary of the imagination"

In late 1965, after a coup attempt whose circumstances remain murky, Indonesian society exploded into one of the paroxysms of mass killing that form a kind of grim leitmotif of twentieth-century life. Supported by the Indonesian army, conservative strands of Islam, and anti-Communist business interests, a purge of Communists in the government and army turned into a massacre fueled by communal hatreds. The best estimates of the carnage hold that between 500,000 and a million Indonesians were killed, but the entire subject remains a sensitive one in Indonesia, and no systematic accounting of what took place has ever been carried out.

Enter Joshua Oppenheimer, an American documentary filmmaker based in Denmark. A fluent Indonesian speaker who had come to southeast Asia to investigate the effects of globalization, he began to interview those responsible for the killings and found many of them proud of their roles because they believed they had stopped Communism in Indonesia. The killers from that time—small-time thugs, essentially—agreed to reenact the murders for Oppenheimer, who has said that his method "was not an elaborate lure to get them to open up. The method was a response to their openness." He told them that he would film whatever they wanted to present.

So far, the banality of evil. But then it gets surreal. The film focuses mostly on a death squad leader in Sumatra named Anwar Congo, who recalled that the original killers imitated murder scenes from American

films—and in fact were annoyed in the beginning that the previous left-leaning government had discouraged American film imports. Congo sets himself up as a director of the reenactment, casting the killings as gangster film scenes. His favorite method was to strangle a victim with a wire. Congo throws in Western sequences and even a song-and-dance routine in the countryside. The violence of American culture hangs over the scenes like a bad dream—and the extent to which the CIA was involved in the killings remains under debate.

It sounds bizarre until you realize that Congo and his cohorts are living well, having reaped benefits for decades from the corrupt military regime they helped install. But the pageant of self-justification begins to backfire on Congo when he plays a victim in one of the killing scenes. All through the film he has complained of nightmares, and at this point the old man begins to realize the enormity of his crimes—he is thought to have personally killed a thousand people. Many things in *The Act of Killing* are difficult to watch, but I've never seen anything more intense on film than the final half hour.

The Act of Killing has been nominated for the Oscar for best documentary. Plainly, it's unlike any other documentary ever made. Oppenheimer, who himself was harassed by the Indonesian military and had nightmares himself during the making of the film, has called it "a documentary of the imagination," but everything in it is true and still present. Don't leave before the final credits, which make this clear in an unforgettable way.

The Act of Killing comes to the Michigan Theater March 12.

—James M. Manheim

Telemarketers, a CD containing some of the elaborate stories he had fabricated as pranks to exasperate phone solicitors. His stand-up routines include some stories about these antics, but he's mainly an observational humorist who draws his material from the oddities and aggravations of everyday life. Cash bar. 7 & 9:30 p.m., Michigan Firehouse Museum, 110 W. Cross, Ypsilanti. Tickets \$30 & \$40 in advance at michiganfirehousemuseum.org & by phone. 547-0663.

Ballroom Dancing Night: Pittsfield Township Parks and Recreation Department. Ballroom dancing to recorded music from the last several decades. Singles and couples invited. Refreshments. Preceded at 7 p.m. by a lesson. 8-10:30 p.m., Pittsfield Twp. Recreation Hall, S. State at Ellsworth. \$10. 822-2120.

2nd Saturday Contra Dance. Mark Hillegonds calls to music by the Sharon Hollow String Band. No partner needed. All dances taught. Some couples dancing. Bring flat, smooth-sole shoes. Preceded at 7 p.m. by a lesson (\$5). 8-11 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.), Saline. \$10 (students, \$5). 408-1829, 649-6426.

Nucleus: Mangiamo Italian Grill Acoustic Routes Concert. Reunion of this early 80s Dexter rock band

whose repertoire includes Southern rock and acoustic rock originals, along with classic rock covers of songs by the likes of the Beatles and the Eagles. 7:30 p.m., Mangiamo, 107 W. Michigan Ave., Saline. \$15 by reservation and at the door. Preferred seating for dinner customers. 429-0060.

Peter Madcat Ruth: Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth Cafe 704 Coffeehouse. World-renowned local harmonica wiz—Dave Brubeck praised him as one of the world's "great jazz soloists"—with a massive multi-genre repertoire of blues, jazz, folk, and rock tunes, along with several fine originals and songs by other contemporary composers. Performing as a one-man band, Madcat sings and also plays guitar, ukulele, jaw harp, kalimba, pennywhistle, and more. 8-10 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd. \$8 (\$15 for 2). 665-0409.

"Redwood Curtain": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Scapino!": Concordia University See 6 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Coyote on a Fence": PTD Productions. See 6 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Venus in Fur": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Saturday. 8 p.m.

Al Jackson: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 6 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

9 SUNDAY (DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS)

"Shamrocks and Shenanigans 5K": Running Fit/Conor O'Neill's. 4-lap 5-km race and walk that starts and finishes at Conor O'Neill's on Main Street. Also, a 1-km run and a 200-m dash for kids. Awards to male and female winners in each age division. Inside Conor O'Neill's following the race, face painting, bagpipers, Irish music and dancing, and more. Proceeds benefit Mott Children's Hospital Congenital Heart Center. 8:45 a.m. (kids dash), 9 a.m. (kids 1-km), & 9:30 a.m. (5-km race & walk). Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. \$35 in advance at runshamrocks.com by Mar. 6, \$40 day of race. Kids races: \$20 (1-km) & \$15 (dash) in advance at runshamrocks.com by Mar. 6, \$25 (1-km) & \$20 (dash) day of race. \$5 discounts for advance registration before Feb. 26. 929-9022.

"Issues and Visions for Ann Arbor City Government": Ann Arbor Unitarian Fellowship. Talk by 3rd Ward city councilman Christopher Taylor, a candidate for the Democratic mayoral nomination. 10 a.m., Burns Park Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 994-4473.

"Present Day Predators and Prey: Maintaining the Balance": U-M Natural History Museum/Ann Arbor District Library. Mar. 9 & 15 (different locations). U-M Natural History Museum staff present the last in a series of 3 monthly programs for kids ages 6-11 (accompanied by an adult) exploring the different strategies predators and their prey have evolved to cope with each other. 1 p.m. (Mar. 9), Natural History Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University, & 10 a.m. (Mar. 15), AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Free. Preregistration required for the Mar. 9 event. 764-0480, 327-8301.

Contact Improv. Every Sun. except Mar. 2. All invited to try this interactive, free-form dance style that involves a rolling point of contact between two or more people through which dancers give and share weight. It is somewhere between tango, modern dance, aikido, wrestling, gymnastics, and none of the above, and usually takes place without music. People do contact improv in any combination of genders, and there are no steps. No partner required; beginners welcome. Followed by discussion and socializing. 2-4 p.m., Phoenix Center, 200 S. Main (above Elmo's). \$5-\$10 sliding scale based on ability to pay. 604-4416.

"Story & Craft Time": Ann Arbor District Library. All kids in grades preK-3 invited to listen to *Splat the Cat* and *Grumpy Bird* and do a related craft. Both stories are featured in the Mar. 16 Michigan Theater Not Just for Kids show, *The Teacher from the Black Lagoon & Other Story Books* (see listing). 2-3 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327-8301.

"Pixelated Images": Ann Arbor District Library. All adults & teens in grade 6 & up invited to learn how to make an abstract watercolor out of a source image. Supplies provided. 2-3 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Free. 327-8301.

"Growing Good Roses": Huron Valley Rose Society. Screening of a video. Followed by discussion of new rose varieties and Q&A. Refreshments. 2 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free; metered parking. 647-7600.

"Phragmipedium Kovachii and Its Crosses": Ann Arbor Orchid Society. Orchids Limited (Minnesota) orchid grower Jerry Fischer discusses the history of and controversy surrounding this deep-pink orchid species discovered in 2002. Also, a sale of orchids and supplies, a member show and tell, and a raffle. 2-5 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free. Metered parking. 647-7600, annarbororchids@aol.com.

Shape Note Singing: Ann Arbor Sacred Harp. All invited to join an afternoon of shape note, or sacred harp, singing, a form of communal hymn singing that has its roots in colonial America. Sacred Harp songbooks available, but singers encouraged to bring their own. 2-5 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Free, but donations accepted for music scholarships. 678-7549, 761-1451.

"Chords and Cuisine Cabaret Show": Huron Valley Harmonizers, Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society. Rob Pettigrew directs the 30-voice Harmonizers men's barbershop chorus in a program of old and new 4-part a cappella songs, including some sing-alongs. Also, performances by Majestyx, the 2012 Pioneer District championship quartet, along with other barbershop quartets. Pasta dinner and a dessert bar. 2 p.m., Courtyard Marriott, 3205 Boardwalk. Tickets \$25 (seniors, students,

EPIC. INTIMATE. BONDAGE.

VENUS IN FUR

BY DAVID IVES
FEB 27 - APR 6
#VenusEnvy

"Ninety minutes of good, kinky fun..." — NY Times. Thomas, a beleaguered playwright/director, is desperate to find an actress to play Vanda, the female lead in his adaptation of the classic sadomasochist tale *Venus in Fur*. Into the audition room walks a vulgar and distraught actress—oddly enough, named Vanda. Though utterly wrong for the part, Vanda exhibits a strange command of the material. As the two work through the script, the lines between play and reality blur, entering into an increasingly serious battle of submission and domination that only one of them can win.

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GERALD R. FORD: AN HONORABLE LIFE



PANELISTS INCLUDE:
Scott Cannon,
Jim Cannon, and
Professor Barry Rabe

Wednesday, March 26
7:30 p.m.

James Cannon's new book, *Gerald R. Ford: An Honorable Life*, was released posthumously in May 2013 during President Ford's centennial year. Cannon, who served as Ford's White House domestic policy adviser, presents a comprehensive narrative account of the life of Gerald Ford, from Ford's humble background in Grand Rapids, Michigan, to his career in Congress and his short but astonishing presidency.

Join us as we welcome James Cannon's sons, Scott, who contributed an Afterword to the book, and Jim in a conversation moderated by Ford School of Public Policy Professor Barry Rabe on *Gerald R. Ford: An Honorable Life*.

FREE Admission • FREE Parking
Reception • Open Seating

Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library



1000 Beal Ave.
Ann Arbor, MI 48109
(734) 205-0555
www.fordlibrarymuseum.gov
At the corner of Beal Ave. and
Fuller opposite VA Hospital

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Photo

Corine
Vermeulen,
Alejandra, Luisa,
Teimy, Leidy,
David, 2010

The Hub

Innovative exhibits and arts programming.

Mar 3 — 31 — *Obscura Primavera*, A Photography Exhibition by **Corine Vermeulen**, Gallery hours: M-F 9am-5pm

Mar 11 — *Obscura Primavera*: Artist conversation with **Corine Vermeulen** and **Vince Carducci**, 12:30pm

Mar 13 — Opening Reception & Talk for *Obscura Primavera*, 5:30-7:00pm

Feb 7 — May 5 — *State of Exception*: MOCAD, museum hours: W, Sat, & Sun: 11am-5pm; Th & F: 11am-8pm; closed M & T
Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit, 4454 Woodward Ave., Detroit.

Author's Forum

A series on books & ideas presented in collaboration with the University Library, Ann Arbor Book Festival, and Great Lakes Literary Arts Center.

Mar 14 — Author's Forum Presents: *First They Killed My Father*: A Lecture and Q & A with **Loung Ung**, 3pm, Michigan Union, Anderson Room, 530 S. State, Ann Arbor

Mar 19 — Author's Forum Presents: *The Imperative of Integration*: A Conversation with **Elizabeth Anderson** and **Elizabeth Hinton**, 5:30pm
Harlan Hatcher Graduate Library, Gallery, #100, 913 S. University

FellowSpeak

Ongoing exchange with our fellows past and present.

Mar 18 — "Balanchine," a lecture by **Beth Genné**, 12:30pm

Mar 21 — "The Labors of Albert Kahn," a lecture by **Claire Zimmerman**, 12:30pm

Mar 25 — "Skirmishes with the MacroPhenomenal," a lecture by **Jason Young**, 12:30pm

Digital Currents

Humanities scholarship in and about digital environments.

Mar 28 — "How Not to Teach Digital Humanities," a workshop with **Ryan Cordell**, 2-3:30pm

www.lsa.umich.edu/humanities

& teens, \$20; kids 12 & under, free) in advance at hvharmmonizers.org and at the door. 445-1925.

"March Madness": Ann Arbor Concert Band. James Nissen conducts this local volunteer ensemble in a program of marches, including Sousa's "Freelance March" and "Washington Post," Barber's powerful "Commando March," Morton Gould's exuberant "American Salute," John Williams' bright and patriotic "March from 1941," Giacomo Meyerbeer's majestic "Coronation March," Rimsky-Korsakov's "Procession of Nobles," and others. 2 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$10 (students & seniors, \$5; kids age 12 & under, free). aaband.org, 478-7515.

"Scapino!": Concordia University See 6 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Venus in Fur": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Saturday. 2 p.m.

"Coyote on a Fence": PTD Productions. See 6 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Redwood Curtain": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 2 p.m.

"Creating Cards to Lift Spirits": Ann Arbor District Library. All kids in grades K-5 invited to make uplifting cards for the nonprofit Cardz for Kidz to deliver to pediatric patients or other children in need to help cheer them up. 3-4 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-8301.

★Booked for Murder Mystery Book Club: Nicola's Books. All invited to discuss 2 mysteries set in Ireland. Erin Hart's *Haunted Ground* is about an archaeologist and a pathologist who use cutting-edge techniques to preserve grisly murder evidence found in an Irish peat bog. In Stuart Neville's *The Ghosts of Belfast*, an IRA killer is haunted by his 12 victims. 3:30 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 769-2149.

★All by Their Lonesome: EMU Music Department. The cello duo of EMU music professor Kate Blaha and recent EMU music grad Megan Chartier perform solo and duo cello works by composers from Bach to Ligeti. 4 p.m., EMU Alexander Recital Hall, Lowell at E. Circle Dr., Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2874.

★"Kiss of the Spider Woman": Rainbow Book Club. All invited to join a discussion of Manuel Puig's deeply affecting novel about the unlikely intimacy that grows between a jailed Argentinean revolutionary and his free-spirited cellmate, a gay window dresser who's obsessed with a B-movie actress. 4:30-6 p.m., Jim Toy Community Center, 325 Braun Ct. Free. 763-4168.

"FrenchieSkate 2014": U-M Student Athletes. Performances by American and other figure skaters who competed in the recent Olympic Games in Sochi. A benefit for North Star Reach, a camp in Pinckney for children with serious health challenges and their families. 5 p.m., Yost Ice Arena, 1116 S. State. \$15-\$75 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office (mutotix.com) and (if available) at the door. 763-TKTS.

"Ann Arbor (Mostly) Acoustic Jam": Ann Arbor Senior Center. Mar. 9 & 23. All singers, acoustic & electric guitarists, bassists, mandolinists, banjoists, ukulele players, percussionists, keyboardists, and other musicians invited to join organizer Michael Niemi to play folk, rock, country, or original tunes. Bring a music stand and copies of sheet music. Listeners welcome. 7-9 p.m., Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. \$2 (members, free). Preregistration required for musicians at meetup.com/Ann-Arbor-Acoustic-Jam. 794-6250.

Fireside Festival of New Works: Performance Network. Mar. 9-12 (different programs). A different new play by a local playwright each night, with each performance followed by an audience discussion with the cast & crew. Tonight: *Invasive Species*, Joseph Zettelmaier's drama about a lonely Michigan fisherman keeping an invasive great snakehead in his fish tank who becomes the target of a DNR investigation led by an overachieving agent with an attitude as threatening as the fish itself, jeopardizing the fisherman's peace of mind and favorite fishing hole. 7 p.m., Performance Network, 120 E. Huron. Tickets: whatever you can afford to pay. 663-0681.

Maria Bamford: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Highly regarded young comic who specializes in slapstick stories with an acerbic edge told in a deceptively soft, almost mousy voice that accentuates her rapid-fire mimicry of the characters in her stories. A frequent performer on cable and network TV, she's also been featured in several films. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. 8 p.m., 314 E. Liberty. \$20 reserved seating in advance, \$22 general admission at the door. 996-9080.

10 MONDAY

★Socrates Café: Ann Arbor Senior Center. Mar. 10 & 24. All ages invited to join a philosophical discussion that draws on the Socratic method of questioning underlying assumptions. 10:30-11:30

a.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 794-6250.

★"Bodies in Motion": University Musical Society Night School. Mar. 10, 17, 24, & 31. U-M dance professor Clare Croft leads a lecture-discussion and interactive exercises. Mar. 10: "Bodies Make Music," about movement for musicians and the upcoming UMS performance by the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra (see 15 Saturday listing). Mar. 17: "Dance on Camera," about creating dance for film. Mar. 24: "Making Ballet Personal." Mar. 31: Wrap-up and graduation. 7 p.m., U-M Alumni Center, 200 Fletcher. Free. 764-2538.

"One-of-a-Kind Jackets": Ann Arbor Fiber-arts Guild. Talk and trunk show by area textile artist Mary Sue Fenner, who's known for her use of bright colors and handspun yarns. 7 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church, 1501 W. Liberty. \$5 (members, free). mtmm@umich.edu.

★"The Three Best Tailwaters in the West": Trout Unlimited. Frying Pan Anglers (CO) fishing guide Cameron Cipponeri discusses fishing in Colorado. Preceded at 5:30 p.m. by dinner and drinks. 7 p.m., Creekside Bar & Grill grounds, 5827 Jackson Rd. Free (buy your own food & drinks). mouradia@gmail.com.

★"Rock Legend Eric Burdon": Ann Arbor District Library. Talk by veteran local musicologist Jim Leonard, in conjunction with Burdon's Mar. 13 concert at the Michigan Theater (see listing). 7-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327-4555.

★"Unmentionables": Nicola's Books. Rochester writer Laurie Lowenstein discusses her acclaimed debut novel, set in 1917, about a women's rights advocate whose shocking views on women's undergarments catalyze a small town into the 20th century. Signing. Preceded by a book club discussion with Lowenstein (preregistration required). 7 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662-0600.

★Upper School Choir & Orchestra Concert: Greenhills School. Upper School students perform works TBA. 7 p.m., Greenhills School Campbell Center for the Performing Arts, 850 Greenhills Dr. (off Earhart). Free. 769-4010.

Fireside Festival of New Works: Performance Network. See 9 Sunday. Tonight: *Bird of Passage*, Colby Halloran's drama about the unlikely friendship that develops between Lawrence Sargent Hall, the author of "The Ledge" (a celebrated short story about a fishing accident), and a lonely writer who shares his house off the coast of Maine. 7 p.m.

The Pat Metheny Unity Group: The Ark. A virtuosic jazz guitarist and serial Grammy Award-winner, Metheny is one of the most popular artists in the field. He is known for great instrumental technique and speed as well as a brainy yet accessible style showing great lyricism and a fine melodic sense. An early explorer of electronic effects, he was one of the first performers to use guitar synthesizers effectively. "The themes are typical Metheny: sensuous Latin grooves, synth-guitar fusion, folksy ballads, a good deal of swing—and the rhythm section is mindboggling," says *The Guardian* critic John Fordham in his review of Metheny's latest CD *Unity Group*. "It's all about the playing skills of a dazzling band, which live shows will undoubtedly ram home even harder." His current group features the musicians he played with on the CD—saxophonist and bass clarinetist Chris Potter, bassist Ben Williams, and drummer Antonio Sanchez—along with Italian multi-instrumentalist Giulio Carmassi. 8 p.m., Michigan Theater, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$39.50 & \$49.50 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office (mutotix.com) & theark.org, and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

11 TUESDAY

★"Native Plant Propagation": Stewardship Network Stewards' Circle. All invited to join a discussion of plant genetics and conservation. 7:30-8:30 a.m., Bruegger's Bagels, 709 North University. Free. 996-3190.

"Monthly Brew Tea Series": TeaHaus. Mar. 11 & 13. TeaHaus staffers lead tastings of 3 teas, paired with a treat made by the TeaHaus pastry chef. 10 a.m. (Mar. 11) & 7 p.m. (Mar. 13), TeaHaus, 204 N. Fourth Ave. \$15. Reservations required. 622-0460.

★"Attracting Birds to Your Garden": Good Thyme Garden Club. Talk by city ornithologist Dea Armstrong. 10 a.m., Zion Lutheran Church, 1501 W. Liberty. Free. 730-2947.

"Human Trafficking: Modern Day Slavery, a Growing Problem in the U.S.": U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Distinguished Lecture Series. Talk by U-M Law School Human Trafficking Clinic clinical professor Bridgette Carr. Seventh in a series of 9 monthly lectures. 10-11:30 a.m., Clarion Hotel & Conference Center, 2900 Jackson Rd. \$65

(members, \$45) for the 9-lecture series. Memberships are \$20 a year. \$10 per lecture for members. 998-9351.

★**Noon Lecture Series: U-M Center for Chinese Studies.** Mar. 11 & 18. Talks by U-M and visiting scholars. Free sandwiches, cookies, & coffee served. Mar. 11: Rikkyo University (Tokyo) Language Center lecturer Akiyama Tamako on "The Liberty of Coerced Limitation: Subtitling Independent Chinese Documentary." Mar. 18: University of Toronto political science professor Lynette Ong on "Contracting Out Violence: Patron-Client Relationship Between the Government and Thugs in China." Noon-1 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764-6308.

★**"Obscura Primavera": U-M Institute for the Humanities.** Detroit-based Dutch photographer Corine Vermeulen and College for Creative Studies (Detroit) undergraduate studies dean Vince Carducci discuss this exhibit of Vermeulen's photographs of contemporary Medellin, currently on display at the Institute for the Humanities (see Galleries). Also, Vermeulen talks about the exhibit on Mar. 13, 12:30 p.m. (Mar. 11) & 6-7:30 p.m. (Mar. 13), 202 S. Thayer, room 2022. Free. 936-3518.

★**"Third Year Memorial of the Great East Japan Earthquake": U-M Hatcher Grad Library.** Michigander Paul Fales discusses his experiences in Japan when the earthquake and tsunami hit. 4-6 p.m., 100 Hatcher Grad Library Gallery, enter from the Diag. Free. 764-3166.

★**"Boat Over Troubled Waters: The Bhagavad Gita and Indian Nationalists, 1880-1947": U-M Center for South Asian Studies.** Talk by Bard College religion professor and Asian studies program director Richard Davis. 4-5 p.m., Thayer Bldg., 202 S. Thayer. Free. 615-4059.

★**"In the Light of Justice: The Rise of Human Rights in Native America": U-M American Culture Department.** Talk by Tulsa University law professor Walter Echo-Hawk, a justice of the Supreme Court of the Pawnee Nation. 4-6 p.m., Michigan League Henderson Room. Free. 763-1460.

★**"The Litvak Jewish Music Tradition": U-M Frankel Center for Judaic Studies.** New School (NYC) Jewish studies and Yiddish music lecturer Dmitri Slepovitch discusses Northeastern European Jewish music from 1800 to the present. Slepovitch also performs excerpts from his multimedia concert "Traveling the Yiddishland." 4-6:30 p.m., Michigan Union Pendleton Room. Free. 763-9047.

★**"Spring Detox": People's Food Co-op.** Talk by local raw foods advocate Ellen Livingston. 7-8:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room, 114 S. Main. Free. Preregistration required at the co-op or at peoplesfood.coop/news_and_events/. 994-4589.

★**"Basic Beekeeping III": Ann Arbor Backyard Beekeepers.** Club members discuss beekeeping equipment. Also, demonstration of hive assembly. Q&A. 7-9 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free; metered parking. meghanom@gmail.com.

★**"The Affordable Care Act": Ann Arbor District Library.** Mar. 11 & 17. Washtenaw Health Initiative representatives discuss how the ACA will change insurance coverage options locally. Q&A. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch (Mar. 11), 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard), & AADL multipurpose room (Mar. 17), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4555.

★**Fantasy and Science Fiction/Theory Reading Group: U-M English Department.** All age 21 & over invited to discuss *Alif the Unseen*, G. Willow Wilson's novel about an Arab-Indian hacker who tries to shield his clients—dissidents, outlaws, Islamists, and other watched groups—from surveillance. 7-9 p.m., 3184 Angell Hall. Free. 764-2553.

★**"Joy, Inc: How We Built a Workplace People Love": Bookbound.** Menlo Innovations CEO and cofounder Rich Sheridan discusses his book about how other organizations can follow Menlo's methods for creating a joyful and profitable business. Signing. 7 p.m., Bookbound, 1729 Plymouth, Courtyard Shops. Free. 369-4345.

★**Charles Finch: Nicola's Books.** This acclaimed Oxford-based mystery writer, best known for his novels set in Victorian England, reads from *The Last Enchantments*, his contemporary novel about a young American who embarks on a year at Oxford and has a passionate affair that changes his life. Signing. 7 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662-0600.

Fireside Festival of New Works: Performance Network. See 9 Sunday. Tonight: *The Antichrist Cometh*, David MacGregor's drama about an advertising exec having a bad day who notices, while examining his receding hairline, what appears to be the number 666 emblazoned atop his forehead. When an old fraternity brother arrives with his evangelical fiancée in tow, talk turns to "revelations" about the



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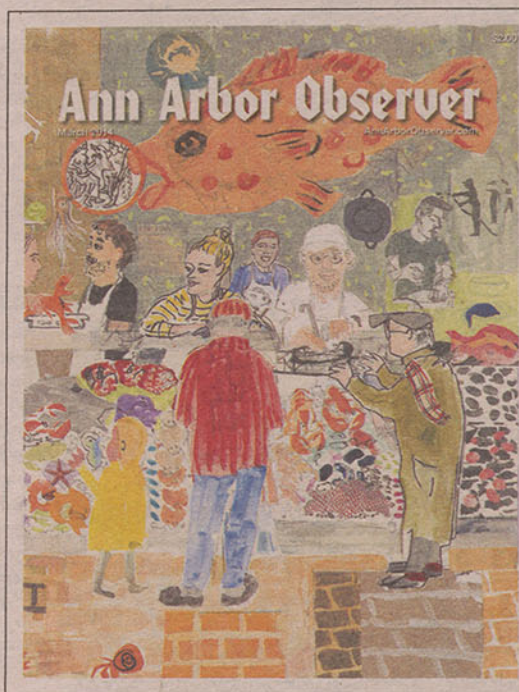
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ad exec's past, and all hell soon breaks loose—just in time for dinner. 7 p.m.

★“Continental Divide: Wildlife, People, and the Border Wall”: Sierra Club Book Club. All invited to discuss Krista Schlyer's book about the possible effects on rare ecosystems of a border wall between the U.S. and Mexico. 7:30 p.m., Nicola's Books, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 971-1157.

★Caroline Helton & Timothy Cheek: U-M School of Music. Soprano Helton and pianist Cheek—both U-M professors—perform works by Ravel, Milhaud, Dvorak, and Adolphus Hailstork on themes of sacred identity and personhood. 8 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 764-0594.

★Timothy Ehlen: U-M School of Music. Performance by this internationally acclaimed pianist, a University of Illinois piano professor. 8 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764-0594.

★“Steps Out of Time: One Woman's Journey on the Camino”: Bivouac. Local writer Katharine Soper discusses her book that details her 500-mile walk on the legendary pilgrimage route across northern Spain to Santiago de Compostela, with tales of serendipitous encounters, new friends made (and one tragically lost), stunning natural beauty, and unforgettable food. Soper also gives tips for those contemplating similar journeys on foot, bicycle, horseback, or by car. Q&A and signing. Preceded at 8 p.m. by refreshments. 8:30 p.m., Bivouac, 336 S. State. Free. 761-6207.

12 WEDNESDAY

Noon Lecture Series: Kempf House Center for Local History. Mar. 12: U-M Stearns Collection acting curator Chris Dempsey and educational outreach coordinator Carol Stepanchuk discuss “The Stearns Collection of Musical Instruments: A U of M Treasure.” Mar. 19: Retired FBI agent Greg Stejskal on “Adventures and Misadventures of a G-Man in Ann Arbor.” Mar. 26: Local historian Susan Nenadic presents “Seeing the Elephants,” a talk on the surprising roles of women in the Civil War—as soldiers and as spies. Noon-1 p.m., Kempf House, 312 S. Division. Admission \$2 (Kempf House members, \$1). 994-4898.

★Noon Lectures: U-M Center for Russian, East European, & Eurasian Studies. Mar. 12 & 26. Bring a bag lunch, if you like. Mar. 12: Brandeis University history professor David Engerman discusses “Separated by a Common Language: Soviet Experts and Indian Planning in the Cold War.” Mar. 26: Vilnius (Lithuania) University Center for Semiotics & Literary Theory research fellow Laimonas Briedis on “Poetry and War: Vilnius Cityscape in Translation.” Noon-1:30 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764-0351.

★Brown Bag Organ Recital: U-M School of Music. Performance by an organist TBA. Bring a bag lunch, if you wish. 12:15-12:45 p.m., U-M School of Public Health Community Lounge, 109 S. Observatory. Free. 764-0594.

★“What Is Sex For?": U-M Institute for Research on Women and Gender. Talk by U-M history and theory of sexuality professor David Halperin. 4-6 p.m., 100 U-M Hatcher Grad Library Gallery, enter from the Diag. Free. 764-9537.

★“Lawn Extension Ordinances/Cues for Care”: Wild Ones. Panel discussion with speakers TBA on the function of lawn extension ordinances and on U-M landscape architecture professor Joan Iverson Nassauer's proposals for ways to use natural landscaping that will be more readily accepted by neighbors who prefer traditional landscaping. 6:45 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free; metered parking. 994-0833.

★“Missing Images: Textures of Memory in Diaspora”: U-M Armenian Studies Program Haidosian Lecture. Talk by University of Amsterdam visual culture and film professor Marie Baronian. 7-9 p.m., UMMA Stern Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 763-0622.

★“City of Ann Arbor 2014 Sustainable Ann Arbor Forum: Climate and Adaptation”: Ann Arbor District Library. The 3rd in a series of 4 monthly forums. Panelists include Huron River Watershed planner Rebecca Esselman, Ecology Center director Mike Garfield and policy specialist Monica Patel, Graham Environmental Sustainability Institute education director Mike Shriberg, city Environmental Commission vice chair Susan Hutton, and city Park Advisory Commission and Environmental Commission member Melissa Stults. Q&A. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4555.

★“Genealogy Research”: Ann Arbor District Library. AADL staff introduce genealogy research tools available at the library and elsewhere. 7-9 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch training center, 3090

E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327-4555.

★“The Diversity Monologues”: U-M LS&A Honors Program/Literati Bookstore. Performances TBA. This month's theme is gender. 7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585-5567.

★“An Evening of Poetry and Written Word”: Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room. All invited to read and discuss their poetry or short stories. Bring about 6 copies of your work to share. 7-9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665-2757.

Fireside Festival of New Works: Performance Network. See 9 Sunday. Tonight: Irrational, David Wells & MacKenzie Lewis's love-and-death musical about the ancient Greek mathematician-mystic Pythagoras, whose religious cult, erected on the premise that divinity is found in the harmony of ratios, is thrown into crisis when one of his followers discovers irrational numbers. 7 p.m.

★“Travels in Myanmar”: Pittsfield Union Grange. Club member Joan Hellmann gives a photo-illustrated talk on her February trip to Myanmar. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by a potluck. 7:15 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.), Saline. Free. 769-1052.

★History Readers Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers. EMU history professor emeritus Jiu-Hwa Upshur leads a discussion of Cokie Roberts's *Founding Mothers: The Women Who Raised Our Nation*. 7:30 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 369-2499.

★“Navigating Social Media and Electronic Games”: Allen Creek Preschool Thoughtful Parenting Series. Talk by Allen Creek Preschool executive director Will Purves and child development director Karen Baker. Geared towards parents of younger children. 7:30 p.m., Allen Creek Preschool, 2350 Miller. Free. 994-3382.

“Redwood Curtain”: Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 3 & 8 p.m.

“Comedy Jamm”: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 5 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

13 THURSDAY

“Coming to America”: Wild Swan Theater. Mar. 13-15. This award-winning local children's theater presents its stirring set of 4 tales about a Russian, a Dominican, a Vietnamese, and a Lebanese child who immigrate to America under different circumstances and over the course of several decades. Local acoustic guitar virtuoso David Mosher accompanies the show with songs by local singer-songwriter Laz Slomovits (of Gemini). Geared toward kids in grades 3-8. As with all Wild Swan productions, the performance is interpreted in American Sign Language. Audio description and backstage “touch” tours are available for blind audience members by prearrangement. Note: Today's 10 a.m. performance is sold out. 10 a.m. & 12:30 p.m. (Mar. 13 & 14) & 2 p.m. (Mar. 15), WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Tickets \$12 (kids, \$8; lap pass for kids age 2 & under, \$3) in advance and at the door. 995-0530.

★Noon Lecture Series: U-M Center for Japanese Studies. Mar. 13 & 20. Talks by visiting scholars. Mar. 13: “The Re-Branding of Himiko.” University of Missouri anthropology professor Laura Miller discusses changing representations of a popular female icon, the alleged 3rd-century female ruler of Yamatai. Mar. 20: “The ‘Kirishitan’ Japan and the World in Early-Modern Japanese Literature.” University of Puget Sound Japanese professor Jan Leuchtenberger discusses representations of Japanese Catholic Christians during the Edo period. Noon, 1636 International Institute/SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764-6307.

★Thursday Speaker Series: U-M Eisenberg Institute for Historical Studies. Mar. 13 & 27. Talks by visiting scholars. Mar. 13: New York University ancient history professor Roger Bagnall on “Materializing Papyrology.” Mar. 27: De Montfort University (UK) photographic history research professor Elizabeth Edwards on “Folded in Time: Thoughts on a Photograph Album.” 4-6 p.m., 1014 Tisch Hall, 435 S. State. Free. 615-7400.

“Healthful Comfort Food”: U-M Turner Senior Wellness Program. Lucky Kitchen restaurant owner Jenny Wu shows how to make shepherd's pie. 4:30-6 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. \$8. Preregistration required. 998-9353.

★U-M School of Art & Design Penny Stamps Lecture Series. Mar. 13, 20, & 27. Talks by visiting artists. Mar. 13: “Learning & Unlearning.” Bunker Roy discusses Barefoot College, an NGO he founded in 1972 that helps rural communities become self-sufficient. Mar. 20: “From What to Where.” Artist and policy advocate Laurie Jo Reynolds discusses her work that addresses negative representations of people in prison. Mar. 27: Talk by director, producer, and screenwriter Penelope Spheeris, who's often re-

comedy

Heywood Banks

Good clean gut laughs

The next time I go to hear Heywood Banks do his standup comedy concert—which will be on April 15, when he comes back to the Ark—I'm going to lay in a supply of Advil for after the show. The last couple of times I saw him, when he served as emcee for the Ann Arbor Folk Festival a couple of years ago and at the Comedy Club last year, I came away with sore stomach muscles from frequent belly laughs and repeated doubling over. And for sure I'll bring Kleenex. Those times I was unprepared for tears running down my face, and ... ah, fluids emanating from my nose as I snickered and snorted through Banks's jokes, monologues, and songs.

There are other comedians—Jimmy Fallon, Stephen Lynch, and Bo Burnham come to mind—who sing and play guitar. But none plays as well as Banks, and certainly none can claim to play a toaster—with forks—while singing an ode to toast. “Yeah, Toast” even includes some French lyrics about (what else?) French toast. Unlike many comics, Banks does not rely on F bombs, or, for that matter, on any swearing or sexual innuendo. A few years ago, when Banks was in town working at the Comedy Showcase, a friend of mine took his preteen kids. He had researched Banks's material beforehand and was pretty sure it would be appropriate. Banks didn't let him, or his kids, down.

But this is not kid stuff. You start laughing at some of Banks's material because of his delivery or because you think you know what the punch line will be. Then he pulls the rug out from under himself and surprises you with a verbal pratfall. For example, his falsetto delivery on one song, with the re-



peated first line “I'm wearing pink underwear and a teeny tiny sweater,” leads you in one direction; you think you know who his character is and where he's going with that line. Then he delivers the second, and last, line with perfect musical and comic timing: “I really need to learn to do my laundry.” Or there is his song about driving through Iowa: “Corn, corn, corn, corn—look there's a tree! Corn, corn, corn corn ...” It doesn't matter if you've heard some of his skits or shucks before—both times I saw him there were fans in the audience who sang right along with him on some songs—Banks's delivery will make you laugh even when you know the lines as well as he does.

See you at Banks's show at the Ark. I'll be the one with the Advil and the wad of Kleenex.

—Sandor Slomovits

ferred to as a rock ‘n’ roll anthropologist because of her work chronicling the punk movement. She also directed films such as *Wayne's World* and *The Beverly Hillbillies*. 5:10 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free. 647-2337.

★Kathryn Davis: U-M English Department Zell Visiting Writers Series. Fiction reading by this award-winning Vermont novelist whose latest novel, *Duplex*, is a peculiar melding of the ordinary and extraordinary, in which a deceptively normal suburban world is metaphysically torqued. A *Slate* reviewer describes the book as “a series of dreamlike, often erotic, images and interconnected plot lines that don't so much build to climax as swell to create an intoxicating atmosphere.” 5:10 p.m., UMMA auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 764-6330.

★“Seleucia-on-the-Tigris: Past and Present”: U-M Kelsey Museum of Archaeology. Talk by U-M classics professor Sharon Herbert and U-M student Jenny Kreiger. In conjunction with the current exhibit, *Life in Miniature: Identity and Display at Ancient Seleucia-on-the-Tigris*. 6 p.m., Kelsey Museum, 434 S. State. Free. 764-9304.

★“Stouts”: Arbor Brewing Company Beer Tasting. A chance to sample and learn about 25–30 favorite stouts, including Irish stouts, milk stouts, chocolate stouts, coffee stouts, Russian imperial stouts, and some Belgian and experimental stouts. Also, a drawing for beer-related prizes. The price of admission includes unlimited beer sampling and a German appetizer buffet. 7–9 p.m., Arbor Brewing Company, 114 E. Washington. Tickets \$25 in advance, \$30 (if available) at the door. 213-1393.

★“Establish a Rain Garden: Clean Up the Huron River, One Garden at a Time”: Ann Arbor Garden Club. Talk by Washtenaw County Resources Commissioner's Office rain garden coordinator Susan Bryan. 7 p.m., MSU Extension Classroom (in the basement), 705 N. Zeeb. Free. 788-3298.

★“Local Food, Healthy Community”: Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room Salon. Panel discussion with Sunseed Farm owner and Ann Arbor Township farmland preservation board member Tomm Becker, Selma Café cofounder Lisa Gottlieb, and Juicy Kitchen chef and Washtenaw Food Hub technical advisor Dan Vernia. Moderated by Fair Food Net-

work special projects manager Lucinda Kurtz. 7–9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665-2757.

★“An Introduction to Islam in Today's World”: Washtenaw Area Call to Action/Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth. Talk by Islamic Education & Resources Network board chair Soraya Orady. 7–9 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd. Free; donations accepted. 975-4632.

★“UMMA After Hours”: UMMA. The museum is open late tonight, with curators discussing the current temporary exhibits. Also, live music by the **Mark Stone Trio**, a local ensemble led by percussionist Stone that plays music inspired by Indian Carnatic and Hindustani music, American jazz, African mbira and marimba music, and European concert music. Light refreshments. 7–10 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 764-0395.

★“Open Mike & Share”: Bookbound. Local writing teacher (and frequent Observer contributor) **Frances Kai-Hwa Wang** reads from her new chapbook *Dreams of the Diaspora*, her 2012 prose poem collection *Imaginary Affairs: Postcards from an Imagined Life*, and other new and published prose poems. Writer May-lee Chai calls *Imaginary Affairs* “a contemporary pillow of sensual longing, heartache, erotic impulse, and wry wit.” Signing. The program begins with an open mike for poets. 7 p.m., Bookbound, 1729 Plymouth, Courtyard Shops. Free. 369-4345.

★“See How They Run”: Friends of the Michigan League Dinner Theater. Mar. 13–16. (The Mar. 16 show is sold out.) Nancy Heusel directs dessert (Mar. 13) and dinner (Mar. 14–16) theater productions of Philip King's popular 1944 comedy, a fast-paced farce of mistaken identities set in a rural English vicarage. Cast: Jim Nissen, Lesli Weston, Steve Jones, Barbara Mackey King, Chris Bickley, Lindsey Ford Dean, Joe Medrano, Norm Richert, Roger King, and Jim Kane. Part of the proceeds goes to U-M scholarships. 7 p.m. (Thurs.) & 6:30 p.m. (Fri.–Sun.), Michigan League Hussey Room. Dessert & show tickets \$35 (students, \$17) and dinner & show tickets \$65, in advance only at the Michigan Theater Ticket Office (mutotix.com). 763-TKTS.

Ann Arbor Ski Club. Mar. 13 & 27. All invited to learn about the club's downhill and cross-country ski

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Enjoy the sounds of high-energy, top-shelf jazz and swing as the Paul Keller At Sundown Quartet performs at the center of the Branch! Refreshments will be served.

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Marisa Eisenberg – Epidemiology (School of Public Health) & Mathematics (LSA)
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The Johns Hopkins University

David Krakauer – Wisconsin Institute for Discovery, University of Wisconsin

Michael Lachmann – Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology
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and snowboarding outings and other social activities. Refreshments. Must be 21 or older. Followed on Mar. 13 by a **St. Patrick's Day Party** with live music by a band TBA and on Mar. 27 by **dancing** to music spun by a DJ. 7:30–10 p.m., Cobblestone Farm barn, 2781 Packard. \$5 (members, free). 786–2237.

"Choral Cavalcade West": Ann Arbor Public Schools. Performances by student choirs from Pioneer High School and Slauson and Tappan middle schools. Proceeds benefit choral programs at both schools. 7:30 p.m., Pioneer High School Schreiber Auditorium, 601 W. Stadium. \$5 (students, \$2) at the door. 994–2189.

★EMU Chamber Winds: EMU Music Department. Mary Schneider directs these music student ensembles in a program TBA. 7:30 p.m., EMU Pease Auditorium, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.

"Venus in Fur": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Saturday. 7:30 p.m.

★Concordia Wind Ensemble: Concordia University. This music student ensemble performs works by 20th-century composers. 8 p.m., Concordia University Kreft Center Black Box Theater, 4090 Geddes. Free. 995–7389.

Dmitry Baevsky Quartet: Kerrytown Concert House. NYC-based Russian saxophonist Baevsky, admired for his technical fluency and exciting melodic ideas, leads a quartet of local musicians in straight-ahead jazz and bop. With guitarist Randy Napoleon, bassist Kurt Krahnke, and drummer Sean Dobbins. 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$15–\$30 (students, \$10). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.

Eric Burdon & the Animals: Live Nation. Revamped lineup of this venerable English rock band that made its name fashioning gritty, menacing blues-rock out of folk ballads ("House of the Rising Sun") and pop songs ("Don't Let Me Be Misunderstood" and "We Gotta Get Out of This Place"). Frontman Burdon, who went on to found the funk band War after the Animals' mid-60s heyday, is a distinctively deep-voiced singer whose vehement, aggressive vocal style is a major influence on various modes of hard rock. The band's current repertoire also includes material from Burdon's acclaimed new album, *'Til Your River Runs Dry*, which *All Music* reviewer Stephen Erlewine praises for its "tough, flinty, proudly old-fashioned rock 'n' roll." 8 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$39.50–\$59.50 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office, Ticketmaster.com, & all other Ticketmaster outlets. To charge by phone, call (800) 745–3000.

"Reckless": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. Mar. 13–16. Kevin Gilmartin directs local actors in Craig Lucas's wildly inventive comedy about a woman who goes on the lam after her husband graciously informs her on Christmas Eve that he's hired a hit man to kill her. She joins up with a couple of oddball characters, wins \$100,000 on a TV game show, and begins a series of hilarious escapades. Cast: Carrie Jay Sayer, David Widmayer, Erick Bloch, Aubrey Donnell, Chris Grimm, Alexandria Strother, Brian Greco, Katie Parzych, Emma Kennedy, Trevor Maher, Jeff Miller, Zach Damon, Chris Potter. 8 p.m. (Mar. 13–15) & 2 p.m. (Mar. 16), U-M Walgreen Drama Center Arthur Miller Theatre, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Tickets \$22 (seniors age 60 & over, \$20; students, \$11; Thurs., \$17) in advance at a2ct.org & by phone, and (if available) at the door. 971–2228.

"Coyote on a Fence": PTD Productions. See 6 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Redwood Curtain": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 8 p.m.

L.A. Hardy: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Mar. 13–15. This L.A. comic is known for his sardonic stories about everyday life and his biting social commentary. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. 8 p.m. (Thurs.–Sat.) & 10:30 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 314 E. Liberty. \$8 (Thurs.) & \$11 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, \$10 (Thurs.) & \$13 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.

14 FRIDAY

★"Museum Technologies/Museum Transformations": U-M Museum Studies Program. Daylong series of talks on the impact technology advancements have had on museums. For full schedule, see ummsp.lsa.umich.edu/conference-symposia-upcoming. 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m., Rackham Amphitheater (4th floor). Free. 936–6678.

"Coming to America": Wild Swan Theater. See 13 Thursday. 10 a.m. & 12:30 p.m.

★U-M Center for Southeast Asian Studies Lecture Series. Mar. 14 & 21. Talks by visiting scholars. Mar. 14: University of Pittsburgh music professor Andrew Weintraub on "From Street Singer to President: Music, Politics, and Islam in Indonesia." Mar. 21: University of Malaya English professor Sharmani Gabriel on "Beyond Pluralism: Rethinking Race in Malaysia." Noon–1 p.m., 1636 SSWB/

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galleries

New exhibits this month:

Ann Arbor District Library, Downtown Branch (343 S. Fifth Ave.): *Curriculum of Color: Rudolf Steiner School of Ann Arbor Annual Student Art Exhibit* (Mar. 4-Apr. 14). **Malletts Creek Branch** (3090 E. Eisenhower): *Snapshots from a Fleeting World: Altered Photographs by Sue Finley* (through Mar. 13). *Dark Light: New Photographs by Gale Nobes* (Mar. 18-Apr. 29). Mon. 10 a.m.-9 p.m., Tues.-Fri. 9 a.m.-9 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Sun. noon-6 p.m. 327-4555.

Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. *Susan Bloye* (Mar. 1-May 1). Acrylic flower paintings by this local painter. Reception Mar. 1, 4-6 p.m. Mon.-Thurs. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. 794-6250.

Clay Gallery, 335 S. Main. *EnScribe and Works in Clay* (Mar. 24-May 2). Clay sculptures by Craig Hinchshaw, David McAlpine, Steven Olszewski, and Robert Piepenburg. Reception Apr. 4, 7-9 p.m. Mon.-Thurs. 11 a.m.-8 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 11 a.m.-9 p.m., Sun. noon-5 p.m. 662-7927.

Concordia University Kreft Center for the Arts, 4090 Geddes. *6th Annual Kreft Juried Exhibit: Memory* (Mar. 4-Apr. 6). Works in various media that explore concepts of memory, remembering, and memorializing. Reception & curator's talk, Mar. 14, 7-9 p.m. Tues.-Fri. noon-4 p.m., Sat. & Sun. 1-5 p.m. 995-7389.

Dancing Dog Gallery, 302 E. Liberty. *Enlightenment Is the New Black* (Feb. 25-Apr. 5). Photographs that explore the art of presence by Matruka Sherman. Reception Mar. 7, 7-10 p.m. Wed. & Thurs. noon-5 p.m., Fri. & Sat. noon-9 p.m., Sun. noon-5 p.m. 531-6565.

EMU Ford Gallery, Ford Hall, E. Cross between Welch Hall and Boone Hall, Ypsilanti. *Senior Capstone Exhibition* (Mar. 24-Apr. 2). Works by graduating BFA

students. Mon. & Thurs. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Tues. & Wed. 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. 487-1268.

EMU University Art Gallery, 900 Oakwood, Ypsilanti. *Kapow! Comics Return to Eastern* (Mar. 10-Apr. 16). Panel cartoons, comic strips, comic books, and graphic novels, including some that date back to the early 20th century. Reception Mar. 12, 4-7 p.m. Mon. & Thurs. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Tues. & Wed. 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. 487-1268.

Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. *Glacier Hills Senior Living Community* (Mar. 4-Apr. 1). Works by Glacier Hills residents. Mon.-Fri. 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m., by appointment, and during evening concerts. 769-2999.

River Gallery, 120 N. Main, Chelsea. *Daniel Rhodes: Revival* (Mar. 15-Apr. 26). More than 100 pieces by this ceramic artist. Reception Mar. 15, 5-8 p.m. Tues.-Fri. 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Sat. 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Sun. noon-4 p.m. 433-0826.

Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. *Mosaic Evolution* (Mar. 6-29). 2-D and 3-D works by Mosaic Artists of Michigan members. Reception Mar. 7, 5-7 p.m. Thurs.-Sat. 3-8 p.m., Sun. 1:30-4 p.m. 480-2787.

U-M Duderstadt Center Gallery, 2281 Bonisteel. *19th Annual Exhibition of Art by Michigan Prisoners* (Mar. 25-Apr. 9). More than 400 works in various media by more than 200 prison artists. Tues.-Sat. 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Sun. & Mon. noon-6 p.m. 764-7673.

U-M Hatcher Graduate Library, enter from the Diag. In the *Special Collections Library* (7th floor): *Engraved in Wood: The Work of John DePol* (Mar. 3-June 5). Engravings by the late American master, one of America's most prolific book illustrators. Mon.-Fri., 10 a.m.-5 p.m. 763-2045. In the *Gallery* (Room 100): *A Place of One's Own: Exploring America's South Asian Diaspora* (Mar. 17-Apr. 21).

Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.-7 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sun. 1 p.m.-2 a.m. 615-7876.

U-M Institute for the Humanities Gallery, 202 S. Thayer St. *Obscura Primavera* (opens Mar. 3). Photographs of Medellín, Colombia, by Detroit-based Dutch photographer Corine Vermeulen. Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. 936-3518.

U-M Museum of Art (UMMA), 525 S. State. *An Eye on the Empire: Photographs of Colonial India and Egypt* (Mar. 22-June 29). Exhibit of photos by leading Victorian-era photographers such as Francis Frith and Samuel Bourne. Tues.-Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun. noon-5 p.m. 764-0395.

U-M Slusser Gallery (U-M School of Art & Design), 2000 Bonisteel. *home/body: MFA Thesis Exhibition by Molly Dierks* (Mar. 14-Apr. 6). Works that explore contemporary women's embodied experience. *Wayside: MFA Thesis Exhibition by Katie StClair* (Mar. 14-Apr. 6). *Only an Inch Away: MFA Thesis Exhibition by Parisa Ghaderi* (Mar. 14-Apr. 4). Reception for all exhibits Mar. 14, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. 936-2082.

U-M Warren Robbins Center (U-M School of Art & Design), Art & Architecture Building, 2000 Bonisteel. *Reconstructing Recollection: MFA Thesis Exhibition by Mia Cinelli* (Mar. 10-Apr. 7). Sculptural representations of memories that highlight the discrepancies between perception and reality. Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. 764-0397.

U-M Work (U-M School of Art & Design), 306 S. State. *Come In Out of the Norm: MFA Thesis Exhibition by Shaman Johnny's* (Mar. 11-Apr. 2). Pop-up shop selling queer Valentines and health and beauty products, with services such as fortune telling and therapeutic bodywork. Reception Mar. 14, 6:30-9:30 p.m. Tues.-Sun. noon-7 p.m. 998-6178.

International Institute, 1080 South University. *Free*. 764-0352.

***"Classics in the Black Atlantic: Classics in African Contexts": U-M Comparative Literature Department**. Mar. 14 & 15. Scholars from around the world discuss the uses made by writers, intellectuals, and political figures in Africa and the African diaspora of the traditions of Greek & Roman and African antiquity. Complete schedule TBA at lsa.umich.edu/complit. Noon-7 p.m., Kelsey Museum Lecture Hall, 434 S. State. *Free*. 763-2351.

"String Soiree": Jewish Community Center Chamber Recital Series. Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra violinist David Lamse, AASO cellist Daniel Thomas, and AASO pianist Patrick Johnson perform Haydn's *Gypsy Piano Trio*, Piazzolla's *The Four Seasons of Buenos Aires*, and Debussy's *Piano Trio in G major*. 1:30 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). \$10. 971-0990.

"24th Annual Home, Garden, & Lifestyle Show": Builders & Remodelers Association of Greater Ann Arbor. Mar. 14-16. More than 100 area exhibitors show and demonstrate products and offer information on home improvement services. Concessions. 2-8 p.m. (Fri.), 10 a.m.-7 p.m. (Sat.), & 11 a.m.-5 p.m. (Sun.), Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Admission \$5 (kids age 12 & under, free). 996-0100.

***"Beautiful Books, Subversive Ideas": U-M Hatcher Grad library**. Cuban book artist Rolando Estévez discusses the role of handmade books in Cuba and elsewhere. 3-5 p.m., 100 Hatcher Grad Library Gallery, enter from the Diag. *Free*. 764-3166.

U-M Men's Gymnastics vs. Penn St. The U-M also has a meet this month vs. Illinois-Chicago (Mar. 22, 7 p.m., Crisler Center). 3:30 p.m., Cliff Keen Arena, S. State at Hoover. Ticket prices TBA. 764-0247.

***"Each Night Put Kashmir in Your Dreams": U-M Center for South Asian Studies/UMMA**. New Delhi artist Nilima Sheikh discusses her Kashmir-influenced works that are currently on display at the Art Institute of Chicago. Sheikh uses traditional painting methods to create images of an often tragic and ruthless reality. 4-5:30 p.m., UMMA Auditorium, 525 S. State. *Free*. 764-0395.

Bread & Soup Supper: St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church. Mar. 14, 21, & 28. Proceeds benefit Children Waiting Everywhere, an organization that helps kids in Uganda, Kenya, and Sri Lanka. 5:30-7 p.m., St. Thomas Parish Hall, 530 Elizabeth. *Free* will donation. 761-8606, ext. 2602.

"See How They Run": Friends of the Michigan League Dinner Theater. See 13 Thursday. 6:30 p.m.

"Owl Prowl": Leslie Science and Nature Center. Mar. 14 & 15. Leslie Science and Nature Center staff members present this popular annual program, for adults (Mar. 14) & all ages (Mar. 15), that includes hikes through Black Pond Woods and presentations with live owls to learn how ears, eyes, and feathers help owls survive in the night. 7-9 p.m., LSNC, 1831 Traver Rd. Preregistration required. \$8 (family, \$30). 997-1533.

Grand Piano Benefit: Skyline Friends of the Arts. Performances by U-M music professors and Skyline High School music students. Proceeds help fund a grand piano for the school. 7 p.m., Skyline auditorium, 2552 N. Maple. \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door. 645-5995.

Impact Dance: University Activities Center. Mar. 14 & 15. This 12-member all-female student company presents an energetic, varied program of original dances that range from lyrical jazz to hip-hop and tap. Although the students aren't dance majors, Impact's quality of dance is quite high. 7 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre, 911 North University. Tickets TBA in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office and at the door. muto.umich.edu, 763-TKTS.

***Aaron Tan: EMU Music Department**. This First Presbyterian Church (Ypsilanti) organist performs Mozart's *Sonata in F major*, Barber's *Excursions*, Schumann's *Toccata in C*, and other works TBA. 7:30 p.m., EMU Alexander Recital Hall, Lowell at E. Circle Dr., Ypsilanti. *Free*. 487-2255.

Advanced English Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Glen Morningstar calls to music by Judi Morningstar, Brad Battey, and Susie Lorand. For experienced dancers. 8-11 p.m., Concourse Hall, 4531 Concourse Dr. (off S. State across from the airport). \$10. ffuerst@juno.com, (248) 288-4737.

***Symphony Band: U-M School of Music**. Michael Haithcock and U-M music grad student Dustin Barr conduct this music student ensemble in iconic compositions by Mozart, Copland, Karl L. King, and Sousa as well as works by U-M composers, including the late Russell Peck and current grad student Patrick Harlin. With virtuosic tenor sax soloist **James Houlik**. Preceded at 7:15 p.m. in the lower lobby by a lecture on the program with Harlin, Houlik, and Haithcock. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. *Free*. 764-0594.

The Sandy Tar String Band and Kavazabava: The Yellow Barn. Double bill. The Sandy Tar String Band is an Ohio-based old-time and bluegrass band. Kavazabava is a Mount Pleasant Balkan-Klezmer-Gypsy band that plays Eastern European folk music. 8 p.m., Yellow Barn, 416 W. Huron. \$10 (Yellow Card or Pink Punch Card holders, free). ouryellowbarn.com.

John Flynn: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). Philadelphia singer-songwriter whose music blends roots folk and country musical forms with socially conscious lyrics known for their disarming blend of clear-eyed honesty and humor. 8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. \$15 (kids 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 665-8558.

Mark Stone Trio: Canterbury House. Local ensemble led by percussionist Stone that plays music inspired by Indian Carnatic and Hindustani music, American jazz, African mbira and marimba music, and European concert music. 8 p.m., Canterbury House, 721 E. Huron. \$10 (students, \$5). 665-0606.

Alfredo Rodriguez Trio & Pedrito Martinez Group: University Musical Society. Double bill. A talented young Cuban pianist, Rodriguez is known for his riveting, virtuosic fusion of Latin, classical, and jazz music, an extraordinarily inventive sound he developed in his teens while simultaneously performing in street bands and studying at the prestigious University of Arts of Cuba. His performance at the 2006 Montreux Jazz Festival led to a meeting with the legendary musician Quincy Jones, who produced Rodriguez's debut album, *Sounds of Space*. Rodriguez's new working trio includes bassist Peter Slavov and drummer Henry Cole. The Pedrito Martinez Group, founded in 2007 by New York-based percussionist and vocalist Martinez, blends Cuban folklore and Latin jazz with timba, gospel, dance, pop, and classical music to create vibrant and irresistible grooves. "Pedrito Martinez is a giant of hand percussion," says an NPR reviewer. "His masterful, elegant, and spiritual engagement with the instruments he plays lies at the heart of this one-of-a-kind quartet's sound." His group includes the celebrated Cuban pianist-vocalist-dancer Ariadne Trujillo, bassist Alvaro Benavides, and bongo player Jhair Sala. 8 p.m., Michigan Theater. \$20-\$48, in advance at ums.org, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764-2538.

"Eve of Ides": Michigan Shakespeare Festival. This play by Chicago Shakespearean actor-director David Blixt explores the intimate dimensions of Caesar's friendship with Brutus on the night before Caesar's assassination. With John Seibert and Robert Kauzlaric. Followed by a reception with Blixt. 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$30 general admission (students, \$15). Reservations recommended. 769-2999.

"Coyote on a Fence": PTD Productions. See 6 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Venus in Fur": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Saturday. 8 p.m.

FASHION FORWARD

Fashion Show

FASHION FORWARD is in support of our local retailers. Join us for a night of music, hors d'oeuvres, fun & of course... FASHION.

For Student, General, & VIP Ticket information, visit our Event Calendar at www.a2ychamber.org



DETAILS FRIDAY, APRIL 4TH

The Ann Arbor City Club • 1830 Washtenaw Ave
VIP Reception 7pm • Showtime 8pm
on site parking available

PARTICIPATING RETAILERS

Wendy • Pitaya • Bivouac • Today Clothing
The Crown House of Gifts • Trish's Garage
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For updates on participating retailers, visit a2ychamber.org

Fashion Show hair and makeup provided by Douglas J. Aveda Institute of Ann Arbor. For sponsorship opportunities, contact Chelsie Whitehead, A2Y Chamber Marketing & Events Coordinator, at chelsie@a2ychamber.org or (734) 214-0110.

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LEARN TO SKATE

Basic Skills Group Lessons

SPRING 2014

Spring 1: March 4 – April 17

Spring 2: April 22 – June 12

Tuesday & Thursday 6:15pm – 7:05pm

Saturday 9:15am – 10:05am

10:15am – 11:05am

For ages 3 through adult Register NOW!

in the AAFSC Office, at the Ann Arbor Ice Cube

HOCKEY CLASSES for 3 to 6 year olds!

These classes will be held on Tuesdays from 6:15pm – 7:05pm. Classes are designed for the beginning hockey skater. It is required skaters complete the Snow Plow Sam 1 class before taking a hockey class. Equipment is recommended.

Ann Arbor Figure Skating Club Presents:

The 72nd Annual Melody On Ice AROUND THE WORLD

Directed by Emily Samuelson

Friday, March 21 – 7 pm only
Saturday, March 22 – 2 & 7 pm

Contact the club for ticket prices and details

The AAFSC Office is located in the Ann Arbor Ice Cube
2121 Oak Valley Drive, Ann Arbor

Home Club of 2010 & 2014 U.S. Olympic Ice Dancer
Evan Bates



Figure Skating Club

"Redwood Curtain": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 8 p.m.

L.A. Hardy: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 13 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

★Angell Hall Observatory Open House: U-M Student Astronomical Society. Mar. 14 & 28. All invited to peer through the telescopes in the observatory and on the Angell Hall roof and to view shows in the planetarium. Also, short astronomy presentations by club members. 9–11 p.m., 5th floor rooftop observatory, Angell Hall (enter through Haven Hall on the Diag side of the building). Free. 764-3440.

15 SATURDAY

Girl Power Invitational: Gym America Gymnastics. Mar. 15 & 16. Young gymnasts from throughout Michigan and Ohio are featured in nonsanctioned pre-competitive and sanctioned early-competitive-level competitions. All day, Saline High School, 1300 Campus Pkwy., Saline. \$10 (seniors & kids, \$5; kids age 4 & under, free; 2-day pass, \$17). 971-1667.

★"The New You: Who God Says You Are": Ann Arbor Aglow Lighthouse. Talk by group leaders Carolyn Allen and Delynn Ledbetter. Continental breakfast. 9:30 a.m.–noon, 340 WCC Liberal Arts Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. 971-4545.

★Grange Junior Makers: Pittsfield Grange. Kids, accompanied by a participating adult, invited to work on electronics, robotics, and woodworking projects. Today's project TBA. 10 a.m.–noon, Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.). Free. 926-5079.

★Death Café. All invited to join a frank conversation about death led by participants. Hosted by After Death Home Care founder Merilynne Rush. Tea & cake served. 10 a.m.–noon, Crazy Wisdom Tearoom, 114 S. Main. Free. 395-9660.

★"Community Forum: For Kinders through Teens, What Self-Directed Learning Can Do for Your Family": Acorn Glen Center for Self-Directed Learning. All invited to join a discussion about K–12 education and the AGCSDL that is slated to open in September 2015. Kids welcome. Refreshments. 10 a.m.–noon, Acorn Glen Cooperative Preschool, 1547 Miller. Free. 585-5555.

"Nature Tales": Leslie Science and Nature Center. All kids ages 1–5 (accompanied by a caregiver) invited to hear stories about rabbits. 10–11 a.m., LSN, 1831 Traver Rd. \$2 per person. 997-1533.

★"Saturday Morning Physics": U-M Physics Department. Mar. 15, 22, & 29. Popular series of talks, aimed at general audiences, by U-M and visiting scholars. Mar. 15: U-M physics professor Sarah Veatch on "Cell Membranes: Using Physics to Function." Mar. 22: U-M chemistry and biophysics professor Nils Walter on "The Origin of Life: Chemistry as the Driver of Our Evolution." Mar. 29: Johns Hopkins University physics and astronomy professor David E. Kaplan on "Particles and the Nature of All Things." 10:30 a.m., 170 Dennison, 500 Church. Free. 764-4437.

★56th Annual Southeast Michigan Science Fair. Display of around 400 science projects by area middle and high school students. The winners go to the Intel International Science Fair. Noon–4 p.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. 615-4455.

"Werther": Quality 16. Live broadcast of the Metropolitan Opera production of Massenet's sublime 1892 operatic adaptation of Goethe's tragic romance, The Sorrows of Young Werther, a revolutionary Bildungsroman that helped inaugurate European Romanticism. Stars 2 of the greatest contemporary opera luminaries, tenor Jonas Kaufmann and lyric mezzo-soprano Elina Garanca. The broadcast is reprinted on tape Mar. 19 (see listing). 12:55–4:10 p.m., Quality 16, 3686 Jackson. Tickets \$23 (seniors, \$20; kids age 12 & under & students, \$13.50) in advance at gqi.com/met.aspx and at the door. 623-7469.

"Professor Ray's Everyday Science": Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum. Mar. 15, 16, 22, & 23. Museum staff give family-friendly science demos. Mar. 15 & 16: "Air Apparent" includes experiments with air pressure, from crushing a can to levitating objects. Mar. 22 & 23: "Good Vibes" features sound experiments, including the chance to see a flame extinguished by sound. 1 & 3 p.m., AAHOM Legacy Gallery, 220 E. Ann. \$11 regular admission (members & kids under age 2, free). 995-5439.

★"Jack with the Curly Tail: A Home for Jack": Common Language Bookstore. A Common Language staffer reads Detroit native Michelle E. Brown's children's book about a puppy in search of a home. Hot cocoa, coloring activity, and 20% off children's books. 2 p.m., Common Language, 317 Braun Ct. Free. 663-0036.

★"Kodu with Kito": Ann Arbor District Library. Local educator Kito presents a hands-on introduction for kids in grades 2–5 to Kodu, a computer programming language designed for creating games. 2–4

p.m., AADL training center, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-8301.

★"Family Art Studio": UMMA/Ann Arbor Art Center. Mar. 15 & 22. Families with kids ages 6–12 invited to make art projects inspired by the geometric patterns and colors found in the current exhibit, Doris Duke's Shangri La: Architecture, Landscape, and Islamic Art. 2–4 p.m., UMMA Multipurpose Room, 525 S. State. Free; preregistration required at annarborartcenter.org. 764-0395.

"Coming to America": Wild Swan Theater. See 13 Thursday. 2 p.m.

★"The Sky Is on Fire, After All": U-M Prison Creative Arts Project. Celebration of the release of this annual collection of creative writing by Michigan prisoners, with readings from the book by contributors' friends and family members and a Q&A with PCAP volunteers and staff. Refreshments. 3:30 p.m., Michigan Union Pendleton Room. Free, but donations accepted. 647-7673.

★Purim Carnival: Temple Beth Emeth. Reading of the megillah (Purim story). Followed by carnival games. Bring your own noisemaker, if you wish. Piz-za & other food available. 5:30–8 p.m., TBE, 2309 Packard. Free. 665-4744.

Wind Dance Chinese Cultural Group: Chinese American Society of Ann Arbor. Chinese cultural performance by this area troupe. All-you-can-eat buffet. Proceeds benefit SafeHouse. 6 p.m., Asia City Restaurant, 2905 Washtenaw. \$25. Reservations required. 332-0390, 646-7800.

A2 Dhoom: Michigan Mazaa. Bollywood-fusion dance competition featuring 8 collegiate teams from around the country. Proceeds benefit the Love146, a nonprofit that cares for survivors of child sexual exploitation. 6:30 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$12 & \$15 in advance at michiganmazaa.com and all Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone: (800) 745-3000.

"See How They Run": Friends of the Michigan League Dinner Theater. See 13 Thursday. 6:30 p.m.

Great Lakes Region Semifinals: International Championship of Collegiate A Cappella. Eight a cappella ensembles compete for the chance to move on to the national finals. 7 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Tickets \$25 (students, \$20) in advance at ticketalternative.com. Varsityvocals.com.

The Accidentals and Bennett: Grace Ann Arbor Church. Double bill. The Accidentals are the acclaimed nationally touring Traverse City folk duo of multi-instrumentalists (and high school seniors) Katie Larson and Savannah Buist. Bennett is the Grand Rapids folk trio of guitarist and vocalist Josiah Gentry, accordionist-pianist-vocalist Nicholas James, and violinist-mandolinist-vocalist Nick Rolls. Proceeds benefit Food Gatherers. 7 p.m., Grace Ann Arbor, 2803 Boardwalk (north off Eisenhower between State & Industrial). Tickets \$12 in advance at muto.umich.edu; \$15 at the door. (231) 409-2003.

Justin Moore: EMU Convocation Center. Young country singer-songwriter from Arkansas who has had 2 chart-topping hits, "Small Town USA" and "If Heaven Wasn't So Far Away." Opening acts are Randy Houser, a best-selling country singer-songwriter from Mississippi who co-wrote one of Moore's hits, and Josh Thompson, a Wisconsin country singer-songwriter who had a recent hit with "Cold Beer with Your Name on It." 7 p.m. (doors open at 6 p.m.), EMU Convocation Center, 799 N. Hewitt (north off Washtenaw), Ypsilanti. \$27.75–\$44.75 in advance at the EMU Convocation Center and at emutix.com, and at the door. 487-2282.

★"Almost the Worm Moon Night Hike and Campfire": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission. WCPARC naturalist Faye Stoner leads a hike to the wetlands and back to listen for night sounds, learn about frogs and owls, look for the moon, and discuss seasonal changes. Followed by snacks & hot drinks around the fire. 7:30–9:30 p.m., Park Lyndon North, North Territorial Rd. (1 mile east of M-52), Chelsea. Free. 971-6337, ext. 334.

3rd Saturday Contra Dance: Pittsfield Grange. Robin Warner and Peter Baker call to live music by Big Fun. No partner needed. Preceded at 7:30 p.m. by a beginner lesson. Bring flat, smooth-sole shoes. 8 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.). \$10 (members, \$7). 426-0241.

Nowruz Celebration: Azerbaijani Cultural Society of Michigan. Music and dance performances that represent Azerbaijani, Turkish, Persian, Kurdish, and (possibly) Albanian culture. In celebration of Nowruz, the New Year holiday observed principally in Iran but also in Central and South Asia, the Caucasus, Northwestern China, the Crimea, and the Balkans. 8 p.m.–midnight, Michigan League Grand Ballroom. Tickets \$15 & \$25; donations accepted. sasan_bokani@hotmail.com, bokani@gmail.com.

"Venus in Fur": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Saturday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Redwood Curtain": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Saturday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Coyote on a Fence": PTD Productions. See 6 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Heywood Banks: The Ark. See review, p. 79. Heywood Banks is the stage name of Howell native Stuart Mitchell, a very animated comedian known for his silly musical spoofs, goofy prop humor, and sight gags. Since adopting the nerdy, quietly psychotic Banks persona in the mid-80s, he has risen from a regional favorite to a national star. A longtime local favorite—he even played a few shows at Rick's American Cafe before becoming a Thanksgiving weekend mainstay at the Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. 8 p.m., *The Ark*, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$25 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office (mutotix.com) & at theark.org, and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

L.A. Hardy: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 13 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

Ruth Ellis Center Fundraiser: The Yellow Barn. Performances by Michigan musicians TBA. Pastries & coffee. 8:30 p.m., *Yellow Barn*, 416 W. Huron. \$15. bessc@umich.edu.

Israel Philharmonic Orchestra: University Musical Society. Founded in 1936 as the Palestine Symphony, the Israel Philharmonic has since become one of the world's leading orchestras—its reputation enhanced by the great Zubin Mehta's service as conductor for more than 40 years. Under Mehta, the orchestra has developed a distinctive, robust sound, and its performances are famous for their passion and emotional power. Tonight they perform Bruckner's epic Symphony no. 8 in C minor, acclaimed for its monumental passages and Wagnerian sonorities. Preceded at 6 p.m. by a **prelude dinner** (Rackham building, 4th floor, \$75) with a lecture by U-M art history professor Daniel Herwitz about the artist and the history of the performed work. 8:45 p.m., *Hill Auditorium*. \$16–\$100, in advance at ums.org, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764-2538.

16 SUNDAY

***Purim Party: Jewish Cultural Society.** Family-oriented program of arts & craft activities, games, singing, dancing, and a Purim play. Treats include pizza and hamantaschen. Children encouraged to come in costume for a parade. Also, all invited to attend a JCC preschool class at 10 a.m. to learn about Purim. 10:30 a.m.–noon, *Jewish Community Center*, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free admission; nominal cost for food and games. 975-9872.

***"Chesstastic!": Ann Arbor District Library.** Everyone from kindergartners to adults invited to play chess. Chess sets provided. 1–4 p.m., *AADL Malletts Creek Branch*, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327-8301.

***"Library Lego League: Robot Wrestling": Ann Arbor District Library.** All teens in grades 6–12 invited to design and build a robot to enter in a LEGO wrestling competition to see who can build the most devastating robot. Prizes. 1–4 p.m., *AADL multipurpose room (lower level)*, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-8301.

Skylark: Ann Arbor Senior Center Cultural Arts Series. Irish tunes and American roots music by this local folk trio led by Betsy Beckerman on hammered dulcimer, banjo, and tin whistle. With violinist Paul Winder and guitarist Sara Melton Keller. 1–2:30 p.m., *AASC*, 1320 Baldwin. \$5 (seniors age 60 & older, \$4; members & kids under 12 with adult, free). Pre-registration recommended. 794-6250.

"The Teacher from the Black Lagoon & Other Story Books": Theatreworks USA (Michigan Theater Foundation Not Just for Kids Series). This renowned New York City-based children's theater troupe returns to the Michigan Theater to present its new musical revue based on favorite contemporary children's books, including Mike Thaler & Jared Lee's story about a boy who faces his comically horrific fears about his new teachers. Also, Dav Pilkey's *Dogzilla*, Jeremy Tankard's *Grumpy Bird*, Jan Klassen's *I Want My Hat Back*, Kevin Henkes' *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse*, Rob Scotton's *Love, Splat*, and the Aesop fable *The Grasshopper and the Ant*. Geared toward kids in grades K–4. 1:30 p.m., *Michigan Theater*. Tickets \$15 (MTF members, \$12) in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (800) 745-3000.

***"Amigurumi Crochet Happy Fun!": Ann Arbor District Library.** Hands-on introduction to the Japanese art of crocheting small stuffed toys. For adults & youth in grade 6 & up. 2–5 p.m., *AADL Pittsfield Branch*, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327-8301.

Family Dance: Pittsfield Union Grange. All kids, accompanied by an adult, invited for contra and square dancing with live music. Grange-baked cook-

ies. 2–4 p.m., *Pittsfield Grange*, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.), Saline. \$12 per family. 769-1052.

***"Flip Your Field: Photography from the Collection": UMMA.** Docent-guided tour of the current exhibit of traditional photographs of trees juxtaposed with variously manipulated photos. 2 p.m., *UMMA*, 525 S. State. Free. 764-0395.

"Venus in Fur": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Saturday. 2 p.m.

***Family Concert: Chelsea Chamber Players.** This local ensemble performs U-M grad David Mullikin's *Jack & the Beanstalk*, with verse narration by Ian Cumming. Musicians are violinist Nathan Peters, cellist Sara Cumming, and bassist Jed Fritzmeier. 3 p.m., *Chelsea Depot*, 125 Jackson St., Chelsea. Free. 475-0433.

Akropolis Reed Quintet: First United Methodist Church Green Wood. This local neoclassical chamber ensemble presents music by living composers featured on its brand-new CD, *Unraveled*. With clarinetist Kari Dion, oboist Timothy Gocklin, saxophonist Matt Landry, bass clarinetist Andrew Koeppe, and bassoonist Ryan Reynolds. Reception follows. 3 p.m., *FUMC Green Wood*, 1001 Green Rd. Freewill offering. 662-4536, ext. 0.

***"UMMA Dialogue: Doris Duke's Shangri La": UMMA.** Museum director Joseph Rosa and curators Donald Albrecht and Thomas Mellins discuss the current exhibit of ceramics, textiles, paintings, tile panels, architectural elements, photographs, and drawings by Islamic artists from tobacco heiress Duke's extensive collection. 3–4:30 p.m., *UMMA Auditorium*, 525 S. State. Free. 764-0395.

***Vic Strecher: Nicola's Books.** This U-M School of Public Health innovation and social entrepreneurship director discusses *On Purpose*, his new graphic memoir—equal parts self-help guide, college lecture, confessional, and time-travel adventure—that chronicles the difficulties he faced after his daughter died of a rare heart disease. Signing. 3 p.m., *Nicola's*, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662-0600.

***"Life, Death, and Entertainment in the Roman Empire": Culinary Historians of Ann Arbor.** U-M classics professor David Potter discusses this 1999 book he coauthored that includes his translation of Hadrian's letters documenting a reorganization of the festival cycle. 4–6 p.m., *Ann Arbor Senior Center*, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 794-6250.

***Anne Beth Gajda and Garik Pedersen: EMU Music Department.** These 2 EMU music faculty pianists perform a program of piano music for 2 and 4 hands, including works by Haydn, Beethoven, Schubert, Dvorak, Janacek, Debussy, and Kapustin. 4 p.m., *EMU Pease Auditorium*, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487-1427.

***Flutronic: U-M School of Music.** This NYC urban pop flute duo of Nathalie Joachim and Allison Loggins-Hull performs original works. 5 p.m., *U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall*, 1100 Baitz (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764-0594.

"See How They Run": Friends of the Michigan League Dinner Theater. See 13 Thursday. 6:30 p.m.

Matt Wilson Quartet: Kerrytown Concert House. NYC drummer-composer and Grammy nominee Wilson, known for his swinging rhythms and contagious effervescence, leads his tightly knit quartet in originals and jazz standards. "As stylist and rhythm-maker, Wilson lives in that magical Astaire comfort zone of gravity-defying freedom, irrepressible invention and perfection," says an NPR reviewer. 7 p.m., *KCH*, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$15–\$30 (students, \$5). Reservations recommended. 769-2999.

***"A David Ives Evening": U-M Residential College.** RC drama instructor Kate Mendeloff's students direct and perform 8 short plays by Ives, an acclaimed contemporary American playwright best known for his one-act comedies. The Performance Network is currently producing his *Venus in Fur* (see 1 Saturday listing). 7 p.m., *RC Keene Theater*, East Quad, 701 East University. Free. 647-4359.

17 MONDAY (ST. PATRICK'S DAY)

***"The Viability of the Affordable Care Act": U-M Ford School of Public Policy.** Debate between *Forbes* opinion editor Avik Roy, who was health care adviser to presidential candidate Mitt Romney, and *New Republic* senior editor Jonathan Cohn, author of *Sick: The Untold Story of America's Health Care Crisis—and the People Who Pay the Price*. 2:30 p.m., 1120 Weill, 735 S. State at Hill. Free. 615-3893.

***"Friendship as Moral Experience: Ethnographic Dimensions and Ethical Reflections": U-M Anthropology Department.** Talk by UCLA anthropology professor Jason Throop. 4 p.m., 340 West Hall, 1085 South University. Free. 764-7274.

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★**Voice Department Recital: U-M School of Music.** Students perform works TBA. 6:45 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764-0594.

★**"UMjobs.org": Ann Arbor District Library.** A U-M Human Resources Office business systems analyst discusses how to search and apply for U-M jobs. 7-9 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327-4555.

★**Nonfiction Book Club: Barnes & Noble.** All invited to join a discussion of *The Story of the Trapp Family Singers*, Maria Augusta Trapp's memoir that inspired *The Sound of Music*. Refreshments. 7 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973-1618.

★**Joy Gaines-Friedler & Lori A. May: Literati Bookstore.** Readings by these two poets. Gaines-Friedler "writes with a hard-earned tenderness and compassion that serve as a testament to the human spirit, affirming both our presence here, and our ultimate disappearance, with clear-eyed grace and dignity," says poet Jim Daniels. In her new collection, *Square Feet*, May "climbs inside [objects'] everydayness to find the extraordinary love and extraordinary pain that they can be a part of" says *Poets' Quarterly* contributing editor Elizabeth Switaj. 7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585-5567.

★**"Removing Self-Adhesive Stamps from Paper": Ann Arbor Stamp Club.** Talk by longtime club member Douglas Bain. Also, a mini stamp auction. 7:30 p.m., Salvation Army, 100 Arbana (park & enter at the rear of the building). Free admission. 761-5859.

★**Bruce Worden: Ann Arbor Women Artists.** This local scientific illustrator discusses his work for a biomedical journal as well as his side projects, including a comic book series, children's books for adults, and other projects. 7:30 p.m., 4844 Jackson Rd., suite 100. Free. 996-2551.

★**"Plant Adaptations to the Aquatic Realm": Michigan Botanical Club.** Talk by EMU biology professor Gary Hannan. 7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free; metered parking. 647-7600.

18 TUESDAY

★**"Balanchine": U-M Institute for the Humanities.** Talk by U-M dance history professor Beth Genné. 12:30 p.m., 202 S. Thayer, room 2022. Free. 936-3518.

★**U-M Softball vs. Bowling Green.** Home opener. 4 p.m., Alumni Field, S. State at Hoover. Ticket prices TBA. 764-0247.

★**"The Blanket Truth: Stories of Smallpox in Early American Indian History": U-M Clements Library.** Talk by U-M history and American culture professor Greg Dowd. 4 p.m., 100 U-M Hatcher Grad Library Gallery, enter from the Diag. Free; preregistration requested. clementsevents@umich.edu, 647-0864.

★**"The Political in Question: Abolitionism in India's 20th Century": U-M College of Literature, Science, & the Arts.** Lecture by U-M history professor Mrinalini Sinha. Reception follows. 4:10 p.m., U-M Alumni Center Founders Room, 200 Fletcher. Free. 998-6251.

★**"Realize the Power of a Calling: How a Calling Enhances Performance, Profitability, and More!": American Business Women's Association.** Talk by Myers Management Consulting CEO Valerie L. Myers. The program begins with networking and dinner. 6 p.m., Quarter Bistro, 300 S. Maple. Free (buy your own dinner). Reservations requested at abwa-maia.org by Mar. 11. 657-1029.

★**"Malbec Madness Wine Tasting": Vinology.** Vinology staffers lead wine tastings. 7-9 p.m., Vinology, 110 S. Main. \$40 (plus tax & tip). Reservations required. 222-9841.

★**"A Ballymaloe Cookery School Inspired Dinner": Zingerman's Roadhouse.** Zingerman's Roadhouse chef Alex Young is joined by Caitlin Doyle, who has just returned from spending 3 months at this cooking school on a 100-acre organic farm in East Cork (Ireland), to host an authentic Irish meal and hear stories of Doyle's experiences at Ballymaloe. 7-10 p.m., Zingerman's Roadhouse, 2501 Jackson. \$60 (beverages not included). Space limited; reservations required. 663-FOOD.

★**Temple Beth Emeth Spirituality Book Club.** Mar. 18 & 20 (choose one). All invited to discuss *Witnesses to the One: The Spiritual History of the Sh'ma*, Joseph Meszler's book about the central prayer in Jewish services. 7-8 p.m. (Mar. 18) & noon-1 p.m. (Mar. 20), TBE, 2309 Packard. Free. cantorannie@gmail.com, 665-4744.

★**"Herbal Allies for Inflammation and Arthritis": People's Food Co-op.** Talk by local holistic health practitioner Linda Diane Feldt. 7-8:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room, 114 S. Main. Free. Preregistration required at the co-op or at peoplesfood.coop/news_and_events/. 994-4589.

★**"The Jewish Cold War: Anxiety and Identity in the Aftermath of the Holocaust": U-M Frankel Center for Judaic Studies 24th Annual Belin Lecture.** Talk by University of Wisconsin history professor Susan Glenn. 7 p.m., Palmer Commons Forum Hall, 100 Washtenaw. Free. 763-9047.

★**"The Sun and Other Stars": Nicola's Books.** Chicago-based writer Brigid Pasulka discusses her novel, set in a soccer-obsessed town on the Italian Riviera, about a 22-year-old man, reeling from the loss of his twin brother and his mother and estranged from his father, who befriends a disgraced Ukrainian soccer star and his sister. Signing. Preceded by a book club discussion with Pasulka (preregistration required). 7 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662-0600.

★**Skazat! Poetry Series at Sweetwaters.** Poetry reading by widely published local poet and U-M Hopwood Award winner Lizzie Hutton, author of *She'd Waited Millennia*, a work Observer reviewer Keith Taylor calls "a memorable first book built around a strong ear for the musicality of our language, an eye for the vivid remembered detail of childhood, and a willingness to come to admirable philosophic conclusions about experience." The program begins with open mike readings. 7-8:30 p.m., Sweetwaters Coffee & Tea, 123 W. Washington. Free. 994-6663.

★**"64th Annual Bands in Review": Ann Arbor Public Schools.** Mar. 18 & 22 (different programs and locations). More than 800 public school students perform in these lively concerts. Preceded at 6 p.m. by jazz in the lobby by the Community High Jazz Combo. Tonight: The Clague Middle School Band, the Skyline Concert Band, and the Huron varsity, concert, and symphony bands. 7 p.m., Huron High School Meyers Auditorium, 2727 Fuller. Tickets \$5 (family of 4, \$10) in advance from band members and at the door. 996-3210.

★**"Go Fish" in Michigan: What Can You Eat?": Huron Valley Sierra Club.** Talk by Michigan Department of Environmental Quality aquatic biologist Joe Bohr. Refreshments. 7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free; metered parking. 665-0248.

★**"Human Trafficking: A Michigan Reality": American Association of University Women.** Talk by Michigan Human Trafficking Task Force founder and director Jane P. White and S.A.F.E. Place Shelter (Battle Creek) director Jennifer Fopma. Preceded at 7 p.m. by socializing. 7:30 p.m., Cleary University, 3601 Plymouth. Free. 973-6287.

★**The Moth Storyslam: Michigan Radio.** Monthly open mike storytelling competition sponsored by The Moth, the NYC-based nonprofit storytelling organization that also produces a weekly public radio show. Each month 10 storytellers are selected at random from among those who sign up to tell a 3-5 minute story on the monthly theme. March theme: "Escape." The 3 teams of judges are recruited from the audience. Monthly winners compete in a semiannual Grand Slam. Space limited, so it's smart to arrive early. 7:30-9 p.m. (doors open and sign-up begins at 6 p.m.), The Circus, 210 S. First. \$5. 764-5118.

★**Elias String Quartet: University Musical Society.** Founded in Manchester (UK) in 1998, this young quartet is noted for its vibrant and full-blooded performances. "Few quartets at any stage of their evolution have this much personality," writes a *Philadelphia Inquirer* reviewer. Tonight the quartet—violinists Sara Bitloch and Donald Grant, violist Martin Saving, and cellist Marie Bitloch—performs Debussy's String Quartet, Kurtag's *Officium Breve*, and Beethoven's Quartet in E minor. 7:30 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. \$20-\$42, in advance at ums.org, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764-2538.

★**"Titans and Transcriptions for Trombone and Piano Duo": U-M School of Music.** Utah Symphony principal trombonist Larry Zalkind is accompanied by local pianist Kathryn Goodson in works by Jongen, Schubert, Mozart, and others. 8 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 764-0594.

★**Naked Dance Trio.** Performance by local jazz composer-pianist Stephen Rush, drummer Jeremy Edwards, and saxophonist-clarinetist-flutist Andrew Bishop. Opening act is a comic TBA. 10 p.m., Canterbury House, 712 E. Huron. Free. 764-3162.

19 WEDNESDAY

★**Society for Musical Arts.** Performances by winners of the society's recent Rosalie Edwards Youth Music Competition for 13-to-18-year-olds, including cellist Paddy Harvey and pianists Forrest Flesher, Sarah



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Xie, and Annie Huang. Followed by a meet-the-artist lunch (\$15). 10:30 a.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. \$17 (accompanying friend, \$15; students with ID, \$5). Lunch reservations required. Info: 930-0353. Reservations: 662-3279.

★Brown Bag Lecture Series: U-M Institute for Research on Women and Gender. Mar. 19 & 26. Talks by U-M and visiting scholars. Mar. 19: Post-doc visiting scholar Gili Hammer on "Blind Women's Visibility, Invisibility, and Encounters with the Gaze." Mar. 26: U-M women's studies professor Lauren Gutterman on "Scandal in Suburbia: Lesbian Wives, or the Hidden Threat to the Nuclear Family in Postwar America." Noon-1 p.m., 2239 Lane Hall, 204 S. State. Free. 764-9537.

Book Club: Ann Arbor Senior Center. All ages invited to join a discussion of a book TBA. 12:30-2 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. \$2 (members, free). 794-6250.

★"Empowerment Drumming": U-M Turner Senior Wellness Program. All seniors invited to join music and health consultant Dianne Baker for drumming to relieve stress, improve your mood, and meet new people. Drums provided. 1-2 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998-9353.

★"Korean Economy at a Crossroads: Aging, China, & North Korea": U-M Nam Center for Korean Studies Sang-Yong Nam Memorial Lecture. Talk by KAIST College of Business (South Korea) professor Jung Ku-Hyun. 4 p.m., Michigan League Vandenberg Room. Free. 764-1825.

★"Detroit School Series: Lessons from Youngstown": U-M Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning. Panel discussion on the innovative Youngstown plan that called for creating a better, smaller city. Speakers: Northeast Ohio Sustainable Communities Consortium executive director Hunter Morrison, Youngstown Neighborhood Development Corporation deputy director Ian Beniston, and Virginia Tech Metropolitan Institute research fellow John Russo. Moderated by U-M urban and regional planning professors June Thomas and Margaret Dewar. 4-5:30 p.m., Weill Hall Annenberg Auditorium, 735 S. State at Hill. Free. 764-1300.

★"The Imperative of Integration": U-M Institute for the Humanities Author's Forum. U-M philosophy and women's studies professor Elizabeth Anderson and U-M Afroamerican and African studies professor Elizabeth Hinton discuss Anderson's acclaimed new book. 5:30-7 p.m., 100 U-M Hatcher Graduate Library, enter from the Diag. Free. 615-5783.

★"When Your Identities ARE Your Work: Navigating Multiple Identities and the Workplace": U-M Spectrum Center/Center for the Education of Women. Panel discussion with people of various LGBTQ identities with various careers. Q&A. 6-8 p.m., SSWB Educational Conference Center, 1080 South University. Free. 764-6005.

"Werther": Quality 16. See 15 Saturday. 6:30-9:45 p.m.

★Channeled Spiritual Discussion Group: Deep Spring Center. All invited to share their spiritual and metaphysical questions with others with similar interests. The evening is led by Aaron, a "being of light" channeled by Barbara Brodsky, who offers a talk on a variety of spiritual practices. Q&A. Also, socializing. 7-9:30 p.m., Deep Spring Center, 3003 Washtenaw, Suite 2 (next to Arby's; entry on Glenwood). Free, but donations are accepted. 477-5848.

★U-M Zell Fellows Reading: Literati Bookstore. Poetry and fiction readings by U-M Zell fellows. 7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585-5567.

★"Being Homeless in Washtenaw County": Ann Arbor District Library. Panel discussion with Interfaith Hospitality Network executive director Nicole Adelman, Avalon Housing codirector Carole McCabe, Michigan Itinerant Shelter System Interdependent out of Necessity vice president Greg Pratt, Housing Access of Washtenaw County director Teneia Pulliam, and Shelter Association of Washtenaw County executive director Ellen Schulmeister. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4555.

★"Patagonia: A 2000-Mile Road Trip": OLLI after 5 (U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute). Ann Arborites Van Harrison and Bill Roberts present an illustrated account of their travel adventure in South America. 7 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. \$8. 998-9351.

★"Trivia for Cheaters": 826michigan Fundraiser. 4-person teams play fast-paced pub-style trivia for donations. The more money teams raise, the more "cheats" they earn. 7 p.m., Rush Street, 314 S. Main. Free admission; donations accepted. Preregistration for players required at tinyurl.com/trivia2014. 761-3463.

★Culinary History Reading Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers. All invited to discuss Donald Kladstrup's *Wine and War: The French, the Nazis, and the*

Battle for France's Greatest Treasure. 7:30-9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669-0451.

★"Birds of Hispaniola: Their Ecology and Conservation": Washtenaw Audubon Society. Slide-illustrated talk by National Aviary (Pittsburgh) conservation and field research director Steven Latta, the principal author of *Birds of the Dominican Republic and Haiti*. 7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 994-3569.

★Richard Holinger: Concordia University. Talk by this Pushcart-nominated short story writer, poet, and essayist. His most recent collection is *Not Everybody's Nice*. 7:30 p.m., Earhart Manor Ballroom, 4090 Geddes. Free. 995-7389.

★Student Composers Concert: U-M School of Music. Program TBA. 8 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baitz (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764-0594.

★"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 5 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

20 THURSDAY

★Daughters of the American Revolution. Talk by a U-M ROTC representative TBA. Also, recognition of the DAR ROTC medal recipients. 1 p.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. 975-1976.

★"Fascinating Brazil": International Neighbors. All area women invited for a program exploring various aspects of Brazil, from its rain forest and coffee to its extravagantly festive Carnival. Refreshments. The club's meetings are aimed at women from other countries living in Ann Arbor and local women interested in other cultures. Nursery care provided for preschoolers. 1-2:30 p.m., Westminster Presbyterian Church social hall, 1500 Scio Church Rd. Free. 995-1645.

★Student Wind Chamber Music Concert: U-M School of Music. Small wind and brass ensembles perform works TBA. 2 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baitz (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764-0594.

★"Science and The End of Country": WCC Book Club. WCC English professor Maryann Barrie leads a discussion of Seamus McGraw's *The End of Country: Dispatches from the Frack Zone*. 3:30-5 p.m., 355 WCC Crane Liberal Arts & Science Bldg. Writing Center, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. mbarrie@wccnet.edu.

★"How Cells Maintain Health Through Self-Eating": U-M Life Sciences Institute. Talk by U-M life sciences professor Dan Klionsky. Q&A and refreshments follow. 4 p.m., Palmer Commons Forum Hall, 100 Washtenaw. Free. umlifesciencesinstitute@umich.edu.

★"Centering a Sideshow: WWI in German East Africa as Local Experience": U-M Center for European Studies Conversations on Europe. Talk by Indiana University history professor Michelle Moyd. 4-5:30 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 647-2743.

★"The Himalayan Journey of Walter Norman Koelz": U-M India Theme Semester. U-M anthropology professor Carla Sinopoli discusses the late museum collector (and U-M grad) who led a scientific expedition to the Himalayas and ended up shipping more than 600 Tibetan cultural objects back to Ann Arbor. 4 p.m., U-M Hatcher Grad Library 2nd floor, enter from the Diag. Free. 615-4059.

Joshua Edwards & Paul Killebrew: U-M English Department Zell Visiting Writers Series. Poetry reading by Edwards—director and coeditor of the small press Canarium Books—and Killebrew, a Maryland attorney. The poems in Killebrew's collection *Ethical Consciousness* are noted for their warm voice and sharp philosophical questions. Edwards is the author of *Imperial Nostalgias*, whose self-effacing and awestruck speaker meditates on themes of place, belongingness, identity, and our moral obligations as global citizens. 5:10 p.m., UMMA auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 764-6330.

★"Storytelling for Grownups": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room. Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild members present a program of personal stories and folktales for adults and youth age 14 & older. Also, audience members are encouraged to bring a 5-minute story to tell. 7-9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Tea Room, 114 S. Main. Free. 665-2757.

★2014 Ann Arbor Youth Poetry Slam Semifinals: The Neutral Zone. Readings by young poets battling for a spot at the Ann Arbor Youth Poetry Slam finals on Apr. 3. Other semifinals are held at Pioneer High School (7 p.m., Mar. 21) and Community High School (7 p.m., Mar. 27). 7 p.m., Huron High School Little Theater, 2727 Fuller. Free. 214-9995.

★Creative Arts Orchestra: U-M School of Music. Mark Kirschenmann directs this adventurous music student ensemble in improvised music drawing on an array of influences from classical and jazz to pop, folk, and world music. 7 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Cen-



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fiction

Curtis Sittenfeld

Midwestern beauty

Not yet forty, Curtis Sittenfeld has published four big books that navigate the difficult space between literary fiction and the expectations of a large audience. The main character of her first novel, *Prep*, was the consensus choice of readers and critics alike as the female successor to Holden Caulfield. *American Wife*, her third novel, appeared to fictionalize the life of Laura Bush. Her new novel, *Sisterland*, is the story of twin sisters who appear to be blessed or cursed with psychic powers.

One of their author's many strengths is that she can write about this without either irony or belief. The unconventional sister, Violet, develops her abilities and becomes a professional fortune-teller. Kate chooses marriage and motherhood and ignores, even sacrifices, her psychic talents. I am not a trustworthy judge of Sittenfeld's much-praised portrayal of the lives of women, but I have a sibling, and this writer's picture of the conflicts and often-extreme loyalties between sibs is spot on.

Sisterland's plot turns around a prediction that Violet has made—that St. Louis will be hit by a major earthquake on a day that her reluctant sister has specified. As the twins, the nation, and Sittenfeld's readers wait to see if the prediction comes true, we learn the personal history that has shaped their lives and perhaps even this prediction itself.

Sittenfeld has always been wonderful in creating the specific feel of the Midwest and the personalities of Midwesterners. There's one lovely passage where the sisters, at seventeen, see a Burger King crown, a tacky



JOSEPHINE SITTENFELD

promotional gimmick meant to appeal to three-year-olds, blow across a suburban highway in the middle of the night and recognize it as something almost beautiful. She continues, "Our windows were open, and the radio had been playing continuously—not one but two Billy Joel songs had come on during our drive—and the air was dense with the humidity of a Midwestern summer, weather that even then made me homesick, though it was hard to say for what." Those of us who live here or who had the pleasure (or misfortune?) of those summers when we were seventeen, will recognize the moment and will relish its exquisite nostalgia.

Curtis Sittenfeld discusses Midwestern literature at a conference at the U-M Residential College on March 22.

—Keith Taylor

ter Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 764-0594.

"The Sleeping Beauty": Quality 16. Live broadcast of the Royal Opera House production of Marius Petipa's enchanting 1890 ballet, set to Tchaikovsky's music, that's widely considered a pinnacle of classical ballet. 7-10 p.m., Quality 16, 3686 Jackson. Tickets \$14 in advance at gqi.com/met.aspx and at the door. 623-7469.

"The Clunie Site: A Late Prehistoric Site in the Saginaw Valley": Michigan Archaeological Society. Castle Museum (Saginaw) archaeology curator Jeff Sommer discusses this site, which is one of only a handful where archaeologists have found evidence of Late Prehistoric Native American inhabitants. 7:30 p.m., U-M Kelsey Museum of Archaeology, 434 S. State. Free. (248) 437-4183.

Stewart Francke: Music Under the Arch. This veteran Detroit singer-songwriter performs thoughtful, well-crafted contemporary folk-rock songs. Snacks & beverages. 7:30 p.m., Stone Arch Arts & Events, 117 S. Ann Arbor St., Saline. Tickets \$20 in advance only at musicunderthearch.com. 787-1428.

Tara Erraught: University Musical Society. An unexpected debut launched the career of this critically acclaimed young Irish mezzo-soprano, who replaced an ill colleague as Romeo in a 2011 Bavarian State Opera performance of Bellini's *I Capuleti e i Montecchi*. "She's only 26, but Tara Erraught already has a classic, surprisingly mature mezzo voice; it's big, strong, dark and rich," writes a *Kansas City Star* reviewer. Tonight she is joined by pianist Dearbhla Collins for Haydn's "Berenice, che fai," Brahms' *Gypsy Songs*, selections from Wolf's *Mörike Songs*, Gluck's "Addio, o miei sospiri" from *Orfeo ed Euridice*, Amilcare Ponchielli's "Voce di donna" from *La Gioconda*, and Michael William Balfe's "Non v'è donna più felice" from *Falstaff*. 7:30 p.m., Hill Auditorium. \$10-\$50, in advance at ums.org, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764-2538.

"Urinetown": Community High School Ensemble Theater. Mar. 20-23. Quinn Strassel directs Community High students in Mark Hollmann and Greg Kotis's Tony-winning musical comedy about a city in the midst of a drought so devastating that a malevolent corporation has been able to take control of all the toilet facilities. Romance and chaos intertwine

in this sharp satire that takes aim not only at environmental degradation, the sophistries of the legal system, and corporate piracy but also at the form of the Broadway musical. *Newsday* critic Linda Winer calls it "elevated silliness of the highest order that makes a gratifying case for the restorative return to knowing foolishness and the smartly absurd." Cast: Ben Wier, Alexandra Cubero-Matos, Isaac Scobey-Thal, Morgan Harvey, Oren Levin, Oren Steiner, Jacob Johnson, Louis Hochster, Hannah Hesseltine, James Harkey, Ruby Lowenstein, Sofia Kromis, Milo Tucker-Meyer, Briana O'Neal, Eleanor Olson, Liz Roy, and Simon Rutkowski. 7:30 p.m. (Thurs.-Sat.), 1 p.m. (Sat.), & 2 p.m. (Sun.), Community High School Craft Theater, 401 N. Division. (Parking available in the lot behind the school, N. Fifth Ave. at Detroit St.) Tickets \$12 (students, \$8) in advance at showtix4u.com and at the door. 994-2025.

"Venus in Fur": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Saturday. 7:30 p.m.

Nick Gaza: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Mar. 20-22. A veteran guest performer in TV sitcoms, Gaza is a very funny and playfully irreverent stand-up comic who bills himself as "The Laziest Working Man in Show Business," sometimes even performing in PJs. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. 8 p.m. (Thurs.-Sat.) & 10:30 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 314 E. Liberty. \$10 (Thurs.) & \$13 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, \$12 (Thurs.) & \$15 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996-9080.

21 FRIDAY

"Enhancing Piano Teaching and Learning with Information Technology": Ann Arbor Area Piano Teachers Guild. Lecture by U-M piano teacher Aya Higuchi, with master class-style demonstrations by piano, violin, and cello students in grades 6-9. 10 a.m., Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 665-5346.

"The Reform Process in Cuba: Context and Prospects": U-M American Culture Department. Talk by CUNY Queens College sociology professor Mauricio Font. Noon-2 p.m., 4154 LS&A, 500 S. State. Free. 763-1460.

"The Labors of Albert Kahn": U-M Institute for the Humanities. Talk by U-M art history and

architecture professor Claire Zimmerman. 12:30-2 p.m., 202 S. Thayer, room 2022. Free. 936-3518.

"Breeding a Better Man: French and German Enlightenment Thinkers and their Dreams of the Perfect Society": U-M German Department. Talk by University of Toronto German languages & literatures professor Maren Lorenz. 2-4 p.m., 3308 MLB, 812 E. Washington. Free. 764-8018.

U-M Softball vs. Indiana. Mar. 21-23. Big Ten opening series. 4 p.m. (Mar. 21), 2 p.m. (Mar. 22), & 1 p.m. (Mar. 23), Alumni Field, S. State at Hoover. Ticket prices TBA. 764-0247.

"Fix-It Friday": Maker Works. All invited to bring anything that needs fixing—chairs, sweaters, radios, and more. Maker Works members will be on hand to help fix things. Refreshments. 4-6 p.m., Maker Works, 3765 Plaza Dr. (off Airport Blvd. north of Ellsworth). Free. 222-4911.

"Happy Birthday, Dear Johann": U-M School of Music. U-M organ students perform works by Bach, in honor of his 329th birthday. 5:15 p.m., First Congregational Church, 608 E. William. Free. 764-0594.

Lakota Waldorf School Fundraiser: Rudolf Steiner School of Ann Arbor. A Native American-style dinner with entertainment by The Swamp Singers, a local Native American singing, dancing, and drumming group. Storytelling and craft activities for kids. Raffle of a handmade Lakota Sioux Star Quilt from the Pine Ridge Reservation. Sale of Native American beadwork and sale or silent auction of locally donated items. A fundraiser for the Pine Ridge School. 6-8 p.m., Rudolf Steiner High School, 2230 Pontiac Trail. \$25 (family, \$50). Reservations required. 663-3633.

Mark Webster Reading Series: U-M English Department. Readings by U-M creative writing grad students, including poet Lauren Clark and fiction writer Maya West. 7 p.m., UMMA Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 615-3710.

"Around the World": Arbor Figure Skating Club 72nd Annual Melody on Ice. Mar. 21 & 22. Performances by more than 200 talented area skaters from tots to seniors. Also, performances by 2010 Olympian Emily Samuelson and the Hockettes synchronized skating teams. 7 p.m. (Mar. 21) & 2 & 7 p.m. (Mar. 22), Ann Arbor Ice Cube, 2121 Oak Valley Dr. Tickets \$10-\$35 (kids age 9 & under and seniors age 65 & over, \$5) in advance and at the door. 213-6768.

Ann Arbor Train & Trolley Watchers. Club members give presentations on "The Way Back Machine to 1985" and "Potpourri (2012-2013)." 7:30 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church blue classroom, 306 N. Division ("just up the hill from the Amtrak station"). Free. 996-8345, 971-8329.

Ann Arbor Kirtan. All invited to join a group performance of this traditional devotional call-and-response music based on Hindu Vaishnava texts and the writings of poet-saints. Accompanied by live music based on rhythmic Indian ragas on bass guitar, tabla, and drums. 7:30-9:30 p.m., Friends Meeting-house, 1420 Hill St. Free, but donations accepted. 761-7435.

Glenn Burdette: First United Methodist Church. This St. James Episcopal Church (Birmingham) music director performs organ masterworks by Bach, Mendelssohn, Dupre, and Vierne. 7:30 p.m., FUMC, 120 S. State. Freewill offering. 662-4536, ext. 0.

"Suite Pairings: All Live Music and Dance": People Dancing. Mar. 21 & 22. This accomplished local modern dance company presents a program of works by company and guest choreographers highlighted by *Cedar's Edge*, a work by People Dancing artistic director Christina Sears-Etter inspired by a visit to Zion National Park that incorporates visual projections and music, and *Sensory Integration*, U-M dance grad Jillian Hopper's new solo inspired by a personal ritual that features a Joshua Harrison score. Also, other works TBA. All the dances feature live scores performed by local multi-instrumentalist Ken Kozora & friends. 7:30 p.m., The Stone Chalet, 1917 Washtenaw. \$18 (students, \$13; kids age 13 & under, \$10) in advance at brownpapertickets.com/event/558026 and at the door. 368-7573.

"Into the Woods": Greenhills School. Mar. 21-23. Emily Wilson-Tobin and Benjamin Cohen direct upper school students in Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine's Tony Award-winning musical, a darkly comic reworking of several Grimm fairy tales. The show features one of Sondheim's most eclectic scores, ranging in style from jazz to vaudeville to rhapsodic ballads and operatic duets and trios. 7:30 p.m. (Mar. 21 & 22) & 2 p.m. (Mar. 23), Greenhills School Campbell Center for the Performing Arts, 850 Greenhills Dr. (off Earhart). Tickets \$14 (students & seniors, \$12). 769-4010.

Ballroom Dance Party: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Waltz, cha-cha, rumba, swing, tango, and other ballroom dancing to recorded music. Bring food or drinks to share, if you wish. Preceded at 7 p.m. by a salsa lesson. 8-10 p.m., 4531 Concourse Dr. (off S. State across from the

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airport). \$10 (\$15 includes lesson; those with March birthdays, free). 644-1485.

★Beethoven Sonata Cycle Recital #4: EMU Music Department. EMU piano professor Joel Schoenhals presents the 4th in a 4-year series of 8 recitals in the course of which he will perform all 32 Beethoven piano sonatas. Tonight's program covers Op. 26, Op. 27 no. 1 & 2, and Op. 28, the *Pastoral*. 8 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2255.

★Clocks in Motion: U-M School of Music. This cutting-edge percussion ensemble performs classic percussion works and new works on standard instruments as well as unique instruments built by its members. 8 p.m., U-M Music School McIntosh Theatre, 1100 Baitz (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764-0594.

"Music for Lute and Flute": Academy of Early Music. Grammy-nominated lutenist Ronn McFarlane and Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra (San Francisco) flutist Mindy Rosenfeld perform works from their latest CD, *Nine Notes That Shook the World*, a collection of their favorites that offers, according to Rosenfeld, "a wide cross section of styles, both 'folk and fine,' evocative and expressive of the variety and intensity of human feelings." Preceded at 7 p.m. by a lecture about the program. 8 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Tickets \$25 (members, \$22; students, \$5) in advance at AcademyOfEarlyMusic.org, Nicola's Books (2513 Jackson), & by phone, and at the door. 478-6421.

"Geri Allen Tribute": Kerrytown Concert House. Allen, a world-renowned jazz pianist and Detroit native, leads her trio D3 in a performance. With bassist Robert Hurst and drummer Karriem Riggins. 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$15-\$35 (students, \$5). Reservations recommended. 769-2999.

Asif Ali Khan Qawwali Ensemble: University Musical Society. A Pakistani superstar who can trace his musical ancestry back centuries, Asif Ali Khan is a Qawwali musician whose soaring vocals and remarkable passion and intensity made him the favored protégé of the late Qawwali luminary Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan. Asif leads an ensemble of nine other male musicians—including two harmonium players, a percussionist, and a hand-clapping chorus—in Qawwali, a devotional Sufi music whose lyrics, sung in Urdu, Punjabi, and Farsi, are drawn from texts by medieval Persian mystical poets, Indian saints, and popular Punjabi poets. Asif's mesmerizing vocals range from whispers to feverish, full-throated singing that is both meditative and thrilling. 8 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. \$20-\$46, in advance at ums.org, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764-2538.

Chicago Afrobeat Project: The Yellow Barn. This acclaimed Chicago-based world music ensemble blends afrobeat, Afro-Cuban music, funk, jazz, juju music, and rock. The band's album *Nyash UP!* "is thick with politics and passion, and nearly boiling over with simmering funk," says a Rhapsody.com review. "But while fat, familiar low brass darts in and out, that's filtered through jazz, avant-R&B, lounge and hip-hop." 8 p.m., Yellow Barn, 416 W. Huron. \$15 (Yellow Card or Pink Punch Card holders, free). ouryellowbarn.com.

"Urinetown": Community High School Ensemble Theater. See 20 Thursday. 7:30 p.m.

"How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying": U-M MUSKET. Mar. 21-23. Students present Frank Loesser's 1961 musical farce about an ambitious young man who sets out to climb the corporate ladder and quickly rises to the top, taking his faithful secretary along with him. The score includes "A Secretary Is Not a Toy," "I Believe in You," and "Brotherhood of Man." 8 p.m. (Mar. 21 & 22) & 2 p.m. (Mar. 23), Power Center. Tickets \$13 (students with ID, \$7) in advance at the Michigan League Ticket Office, and at the door. 764-2538.

"Venus in Fur": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Saturday. 8 p.m.

Nick Gaza: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 20 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

22 SATURDAY

★"Predators & Prey Discovery Day": U-M Natural History Museum. This family-oriented interactive program explores the interactions of predatory animals and their prey from prehistory to today. 9 a.m.-5 p.m., U-M Natural History Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free. 764-0478.

★"10th Anniversary Community Celebration for Malletts Creek Branch": Ann Arbor District Library. With souvenir giveaways and activities throughout the day. Highlights include a "Happy Birthday Celebration Craft" (10-11 a.m.), a chance for kids age 3 & up to help make and decorate a 3-tiered paper birthday cake and enjoy a birthday treat, and a performance by the Paul Keller at Sundown Quartet (3-5:30 p.m.), a local mainstream jazz ensemble led by bassist Keller. Also, at 4:15

p.m., remarks on the history of the branch by AADL director Josie Parker and others. Refreshments. 9 a.m.-6 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327-4555.

Fiber Expo. Mar. 22 & 23. Show and sale of a variety of yarns, rug hooking kits, felted items, roving, and fiber art products and craft items. Sheep, goat, and alpaca shearing demonstrations. Classes. Also, breeders on hand with alpacas, goats, Angora rabbits, and other animals. Concessions. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. (Mar. 22) & 10 a.m.-4 p.m. (Mar. 23), Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Tickets \$4 (\$6 for both days); kids age 11 & under, free. 546-0032.

★"Come and Play the Acorn Way!": Acorn Glen Cooperative Preschool. Indoor and outdoor activities, storytime, and refreshments for toddlers and preschool-aged kids, accompanied by an adult. Siblings and friends welcome. 10 a.m.-noon, Acorn Glen Cooperative Preschool, 1547 Miller. Free. 585-5555.

Orchid Festival: Ann Arbor Orchid Society. Mar. 22 & 23. Show (noon-4:30 p.m. Mar. 22 & 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Mar. 23) and sales (10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. both days) of thousands of breathtaking orchids. Also, talks and demos by orchid growers (1, 2, & 3 p.m. on Mar. 22 and noon, 1, & 2 p.m. Mar. 23). Note: the show is open 9-10 a.m. each day to photographers only. 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free admission; metered parking. annarbororchids@aol.com, 647-7600.

41st Annual Dexter Artisan Fair: Dexter Area Historical Society. More than 45 artists and craftspeople display and sell a wide range of decorative and functional works in a wide array of media. Craft table for kids. Bake sale. Raffle. Proceeds benefit the Dexter Area Museum. 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Creekside Elementary School (old Dexter High School), 2615 Baker Rd., Dexter. \$3 (kids through grade 8, free). 426-8846.

Spring Holistic Psychic Fair: Intuitives Interactive. Presentations by local intuitive readers, mediums, astrologers, psychic artists, energy workers, and more. Talk by intuitive astrologer and former *phenomena* columnist Dennis Fairchild on "Feng Shui and 2014 Astrology Forecast." Interactive presentations include crystal bowl tuning with chakratuned bowls by Rachel Eckenrod, past-life regression with Constance Hart & Jude Shepard, and messages from the departed with Wendy Powers. Vendors with holistic and metaphysical products. Light snacks for sale. 10 a.m.-8 p.m., Clarion Conference Center, 2900 Jackson Rd. \$5 admission. Additional costs for sessions with practitioners. 358-0218.

★"Voices of the Middle West: A Celebration of Writers and Independent Presses": Midwestern Gothic/U-M Residential College. A book fair and festival featuring writers and presses from all over the Midwest. Keynote address (5 p.m., Keene Theater) by Curtis Sittenfeld (see review, p. 87), author of the bestselling novels *Sisterland*, *American Wife*, *Prep*, and *Man of My Dreams*. Also, an open mike (3:45-4:45 p.m.) and panel discussions with writers (11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.), publishers (1:15-2:15 p.m.), and representatives of campus student literary publications (2:30-3:30 p.m.). The day concludes with a reception and book signing with refreshments. Raffle. 10 a.m.-6:30 p.m., East Quad, 701 East University. Free. 763-0176.

★"Free College Day": WCC. Presentations by WCC instructors on various topics. Historian David Fitzpatrick discusses "More Than a Wicked Witch: The Wizard of Oz and the Populist Revolt" (1-1:55 p.m.). Art historian and world traveler Elisabeth Thoburn discusses "A Journey from WCC to Timbuktu" (2-2:55 p.m.). Great Lakes policy and conservation expert Karen Vigmostad discusses "The Great Lakes Today" (3-4 p.m.). Automotive instructor Scott Malnar discusses "Detailing & Personalizing Your Vehicle" (3-4 p.m.). 1-4 p.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium (except "Detailing & Personalizing Your Vehicle," Occupational Education Bldg., Rm. 151), 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free; preregistration required at wccnet.edu/freecollegeday. 922-5568.

"Wolverine Will": Performance Network Children's Theater Network. Phil Powers stars in Carla Milarch's educational theater work that takes kids in grades K-6 on a whirlwind tour of Michigan history, from lumberjacks to lugnuts. Milk & cookies. 1 p.m., Performance Network, 120 E. Huron. Tickets \$10 (youth under age 16, \$7; family, \$20) in advance at performancenetwork.org & by phone, and at the door. For reservations or to charge by phone, call 663-0681.

★Jazz Combos: EMU Music Department. Mark Pappas conducts music student jazz combos in programs of standard and contemporary charts. 1 & 4 p.m., EMU Alexander Recital Hall, Lowell at E. Circle Dr., Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2255.

★**Waterloo Recreation Area.** Mar. 22 & 29. Programs presented by WRA park interpreter Katie McGlashen. Mar. 22 (2-4 p.m.): "Spring Terrarium." Participants make a small, display-worthy ecosystem. Bring a glass container with a lid, between a quart and a gallon in size. Mar. 29 (2-3:30 p.m.): "Harbinger Hike." A hike along Discovery Center trails to look for signs of awakening animals, early sprouts, and perhaps a few unorthodox blooms. Various times, Eddy Discovery Center (except as noted), Bush Rd. (west from Pierce Rd. off I-94 exit 157), Waterloo Recreation Area. Free. \$10 annual vehicle entrance fee. 475-3170.

★**Owen Laukkanen: Nicola's Books.** This Toronto writer reads from *Kill Fee*, his new novel about a state investigator and FBI special agent who witness an assassination and eventually track it back to a murder-for-hire social media website. Signing. Preceded by a book club discussion with Laukkanen of his novel *Criminal Enterprise* (preregistration required). 4 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662-0600.

4th Saturday Scandinavian Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Swedish and Norwegian dancing to recorded and live music. No partner necessary. Wear flat shoes with smooth, hard soles. The program begins with a lesson by Bruce Sagan and Suzanne Schluederberg. 5-7 p.m., Concourse Hall, 4531 Concourse Dr. (off S. State across from the airport). \$5 (students, \$3). (908) 721-2599.

★**"Win Big for Kids": Saline Kiwanis Club.** Dinner, silent auction, and raffles. Cash prizes. Proceeds benefit local youth programs. 5:30 p.m., Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Tickets \$100 per couple (includes a raffle ticket) in advance at kiwanisclubofsaline.com. 662-2522.

★**Orchid Ensemble: U-M Confucius Institute.** This acclaimed Vancouver trio offers "Asian Tradition Meets World Fusion," a program of traditional and contemporary Chinese instrumental music and works that blend Chinese and Western elements, on *erhu* (Chinese violin), *zheng* (Chinese zither), and percussion. 7-9 p.m., UMMA Apse, 525 S. State, Free. 764-8888.

★**U-M J. Edgar Edwards Reading Series.** Readings by 1st-year MFA students, including fiction writer Nora Byrnes and poet Stephen Rodriguez. 7-9 p.m., Michigan League Henderson Room. Free. 764-6330.

International Folk Dancing: Ann Arbor Folkdancers. Dancing to recorded music. No partner needed; beginners welcome. The program begins with a lesson. 7-10 p.m., the barn at Gretchen's House V, 2625 Traver. \$5 (students, \$3). 709-8748.

"64th Annual Bands in Review": Ann Arbor Public Schools. See 18 Tuesday. Tonight: The Tappan, Forsythe, Slauson, and Ann Arbor Open @ Mack middle school bands, the Skyline varsity and symphony bands, and the Pioneer varsity, concert, and symphony bands. 7 p.m., Pioneer High School Schreiber Auditorium, 601 W. Stadium at S. Main. Tickets \$5 (family of 4, \$10) in advance from band members and at the door. 996-3210.

4th Saturday Contra and Square Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Reuven AnafShalom and Ed Vincent call to live music by Picks & Sticks. Bring a snack to share, if you wish. Preceded at 7 p.m. by a lesson. 7:30 p.m., Concourse Hall, 4531 Concourse Dr. (off S. State across from the airport). \$10 (members, \$9; students, \$5). 786-8380.

"Suite Pairings: All Live Music and Dance": People Dancing. See 21 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

"Urinetown": Community High School Ensemble Theater. See 20 Thursday. 1 & 7:30 p.m.

"Into the Woods": Greenhills School See 21 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

★**University Lowbrow Astronomers.** Mar. 22 & 29. A chance to join local astronomy buffs for a look at the sky through instruments. Participants encouraged to bring their own telescopes. Visitors must turn off all electronic equipment (car radios, transmitters, phones, etc.) at the observatory entrance. Canceled if sky is overcast at sunset or if the weather is extremely inclement. Sunset-12:30 a.m. or as long as the sky remains clear, Peach Mountain Observatory, North Territorial Rd. (about 1 1/4 miles west of Hudson Mills Metropark), Dexter. Free. 332-9132.

4th Saturday Scandinavian Music Jam. Local fiddler Bruce Sagan hosts a jam for all musicians interested in playing Swedish and Norwegian tunes. 8-10 p.m., Sagan residence, 2059 Georgetown Blvd. Free. (908) 721-2599, sagan@math.msu.edu.

★**Performing Arts Technology Showcase: U-M School of Music.** Performances and presentations by U-M performing arts technology students. 8 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baites (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764-0594.



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1 LEARN WHAT SYMPTOMS MEAN. What's the difference between a painful spasm in your low back, and numbness in a leg or foot? You need to know, because the former can be cured with home remedies, while the latter requires immediate treatment to prevent permanent neurological damage. Visit our online spine encyclopedia at AnnArborSpineCenter.com to find symptom charts that reveal when you need to see a doctor.

2 GET OUR HOME REMEDY BOOK: About 80% of simple back and neck pain can resolve itself with home remedies. As a community service, Ann Arbor Spine Center has mailed out more than 10,000

copies of our 36-page Home Remedy Book. It has symptom charts, pain-relieving stretches and remedies you can use at home.

3 LEARN YOUR TREATMENT OPTIONS. Some symptoms from back or neck problems can be relieved with non-surgical treatment options like a simple injection or special stretches that you can learn with our therapist.

4 GET A SECOND OPINION. If you've been told you need spine surgery, the smartest thing to do is get a second opinion from a spine center that includes NON-surgical treatment options. You

may learn that you don't need surgery after all. Visit our web site and download our Back to Life Journal.

Ann Arbor Spine Center is the only spine center in Michigan to publish a Clinical Outcome Report Card and be included in a national listing of credentialed spine centers by SpineCenterNetwork.com. The spine center combines the expertise of orthopedic and neurological spine surgeons and physical medicine MDs under one roof for a team approach. Get Back to Life in 2014! We believe the first step toward quality healthcare is a well-informed patient.



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★**"Songs of a Young Man":** Boychoir of Ann Arbor. Boychoir assistant director Alex Sutton directs the Boychoir's Young Men's Ensemble, a choir of boys ages 13-18, in a program showcasing the colorful and multifaceted nature of the male singing voice, from the solemnity of Felix Mendelssohn's "Beati mortui" to the lightheartedness of Gene Chandler's doo-wop standard "Duke of Earl." The varied program also includes solos, barbershop quartets, and opera arias. 8 p.m., location TBA. Free; donations accepted. 663-5377.

Finer, Michael Spain, and The Tectonix: The Yellow Barn. Triple bill. Finer is the acclaimed Indianapolis-based husband-and-wife pop-rock duo of vocalist-guitarist Stacy Basner and bassist Ethan James. Michael Spain is a Michigan singer-songwriter whose music combines elements of jazz, rock, and classical styles. The Tectonix are a local rock duo. 8 p.m., Yellow Barn, 416 W. Huron. \$10 (Yellow Card or Pink Punch Card holders, free). ouryellowbarn.com.

★**"Beethoven and Beyond":** Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra. Arie Lipsky conducts the orchestra in a program highlighted by Beethoven's dramatic and playful Concerto no. 2 in B-flat major, with Adam Golka, the internationally acclaimed young pianist noted in the *Washington Post* for his "brilliant technique and real emotional depth." The program also includes Strauss's symphonic poem *Also Sprach Zarathustra* (the theme from 2001: A Space Odyssey)—which makes use of the theater's Barton organ—and John Adams' *Short Ride in a Fast Machine*. 8 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$12-\$60 (discounts for students & seniors; 1st-time season subscribers, buy 1 get 1 free) in advance at the AASO office (220 E. Huron, suite 470), at a2so.com, and at the door. 994-4801.

★**"How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying":** U-M MUSKET. See 21 Friday. 8 p.m.

★**"Venus in Fur":** Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Saturday. 8 p.m.

Nick Gaza: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 20 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

23 SUNDAY

★**Sunday Schmooze:** Ann Arbor Jewish Cultural Society. State representative Jeff Irwin, an Ann Arbor Democrat, discusses "A Constitutional Convention to Overturn Citizens United?" 10 a.m.-noon, Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 975-9872.

★**Sunday Brunch Concert Series:** Jewish Community Center. U-M cello professor Anthony Elliott conducts a chamber ensemble from the Dexter Community Orchestra in a program TBA. All invited. 11 a.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). \$12 (members, \$10) includes brunch. Reservations required. 971-0990.

★**"Dancing Babies":** Ann Arbor District Library. Local composer-percussionist and teacher Aron Kaufman presents a program of music and movement for babies through 5-year-olds. 1-1:40 p.m., AADL Traverwood Branch, 3333 Traverwood at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327-8301.

★**"Peace Lake Secret Hike":** Huron Valley Sierra Club. Guest hike leader Barry Lonik leads a 4-mile hike through Pinckney State Recreation Area to learn about watersheds. 1 p.m., meet at the picnic table in front of Zingerman's Roadhouse (2501 Jackson Rd.) to carpool. Free. 677-0823.

★**"Genetically Modified (GM) Foods: Saving the World, Endangering It, or Somewhere in Between?":** First Unitarian Universalist Congregation. Panel discussion with U-M ecology and evolutionary biology professor Catherine Badgley, MSU horticulture professor Rebecca Grumet, Capella Farms farmer Jennifer Kangas, Siler Farms farmer Ken Siler, and MSU agriculture, food, and community ethics chair Paul Thompson. 1 p.m., First Unitarian Universalist Church Chapel, 4001 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Free. 475-9805.

★**"Tuskegee Airmen":** Genealogical Society of Washtenaw County. Talk by Detroit native and retired Detroit public schools science teacher Alexander Jefferson, a famous Tuskegee Airman who flew 18 combat missions in the P-51 fighter plane before being shot down over Toulon, France, and sent to Stalag Luft 3 in Poland as a POW. Followed by a talk by TimePieces Personal Biographies founder Stephanie Kadel Taras on "Writing Your Genealogy Research into Narrative." 1:30 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center auditorium, 5305 Elliott Dr. (off McAuley Dr. from E. Huron River Dr.). Use parking lot P and look for the club's signs. Free. 483-2799.

★**Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild.** All invited to listen to guild members swap stories or bring their own to tell. 2-4 p.m., Nicola's Books, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 971-5763.

★**"An Eye on the Empire":** UMMA. Docent-guided tour of the current exhibit of photographs of colonial India and Egypt by famous Victorian-era photographers such as Francis Frith and Samuel Bourne. 2 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 764-0395.

★**"Spring Equinox Ritual":** Druids of Shining Lakes Grove. All invited to celebrate this ancient Celtic Druidic festival honoring nature spirits, with a local emphasis on Ana, goddess of the Huron River. Bring gardening tools and seeds you would like blessed. Raffle and potluck (bring a dish). 2-5 p.m., Ann Arbor Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill. Free. 277-1897.

★**"Food, Land, and Justice: Creating a Jewish Lens."** Symposium on regional sustainability issues, with a keynote address by Fair Food Network president Oran Hesterman on "Fair Food." 2-5 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. Free. 971-0990.

★**Percussion Ensemble:** U-M School of Music. Joseph Gramley and Jonathan Ovalle conduct this music student ensemble in works by Zaninelli, Aldridge, Fitkin, Rouse, and others. 2 p.m., U-M Music School McIntosh Theatre, 1100 Baitz (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764-0594.

★**"All about the Trio":** Kerrytown Concert House. U-M jazz piano professor Ellen Rowe leads her trio in a lecture-concert. With bassist Paul Keller and drummer Pete Siers. 2 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$10-\$25 (students, \$5). Reservations recommended. 769-2999.

★**"Into the Woods":** Greenhills School See 21 Friday. 2 p.m.

★**"Urinetown":** Community High School Ensemble Theater. See 20 Thursday. 2 p.m.

★**"How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying":** U-M MUSKET. See 21 Friday. 2 p.m.

★**"Venus in Fur":** Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Saturday. 2 p.m.

★**"In Conversation: Doris Duke's Shangri La and Islamic Art":** UMMA. All invited to join a discussion of the current exhibit of ceramics, textiles, paintings, tile panels, architectural elements, photographs, and drawings by Islamic artists from tobacco heiress Duke's extensive collection. 3-4 p.m., UMMA Taubman 1 Gallery, 525 S. State. Free; preregistration required via email to umma-program-registration@umich.edu. 764-0395.

★**Wind Ensemble Concert:** Washtenaw Community Concert Band. Chamber music by 13 small brass and woodwind ensembles, including a brass sextet, a euphonium quartet, a clarinet sextet, an "old time" town band, and others. Food and drinks available. Proceeds benefit the band's Ken Bowman Educational Scholarship Fund. 3-5 p.m., Zal Gaz Grotto, 2070 W. Stadium. Free, but donations accepted. wccband.org.

★**Daniel Roth:** U-M School of Music/Ypsilanti Pipe Organ Festival. Performance by this internationally acclaimed French organist and composer. 4 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 300 N. Washington, Ypsilanti. Free. 764-0594.

★**Michigan Youth Ensembles:** U-M School of Music. Julie Skadsem directs the Michigan Youth Women's Chorale and Vincent Chandler directs the Michigan Youth Jazz Improvisation Ensemble. Program TBA. 4 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 764-0594.

★**"Cabaret: La Vie de Bohème":** Arbor Opera Theater Fundraiser. Cabaret songs by members of this polished local opera company. 4 & 6:30 p.m., The Earle Restaurant Downtown, 121 W. Washington. Tickets \$10-\$40 (food not included) in advance & at the door. arboropera.com. 994-0211.

★**"The Planets":** Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra Family Concert Series. Arie Lipsky conducts the orchestra in a family-friendly performance highlighted by Gustav Holst's popular symphonic suite, with projected photographs of space and the planets from U-M astronomy projects. With guest cellist Lev Mamuya, a 16-year-old who won the 2013 Sphinx Competition. The program also includes Strauss's symphonic poem *Also Sprach Zarathustra*, the theme from 2001: A Space Odyssey, as well as Mozart's joyful and exhilarating *Jupiter Symphony* and music from *Star Wars*. Attendees are encouraged to come in space-inspired costumes. Astronaut Tony England is on hand for autographs afterward. Preceded 2:30-3:30 p.m. in the lobby by an instrument petting zoo, hands-on activities, and a display of an Apollo space suit (on loan from NASA), which was used on a moon walk. 4 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$12 (kids, \$8) in advance at the AASO office (220 E. Huron, suite 470), at a2so.com, and at the door. 994-4801.

★**Jazz Combos:** U-M School of Music. Mar. 23 & 24. Robert Hurst directs students in jazz standards and originals. 7 p.m. (Mar. 23) & 8 p.m. (Mar. 24), U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 764-0594.

Ann Arbor Film Festival

Looking Back at L.A.

The city as background, character, and subject

The city of Los Angeles receives an often-withering examination in two noteworthy films screening at this year's Ann Arbor Film Festival. The first, *Los Angeles Plays Itself*, considers the city as portrayed on film with fascinating and deeply obsessive thoroughness. Over nearly three hours, writer-director Thom Andersen, a film professor at California Institute of the Arts and longtime L.A. resident, dissects the way the city has been filmed as a background, a character, and a subject itself. Andersen's exhaustive knowledge of the city and complex affection for it imbue the picture with character and true insight. He loathes the way movies portray L.A. as a town devoted solely to the entertainment industry, the way they abbreviate its geography and even the way they abbreviate the city's name itself. (He theorizes that the "L.A." handle originated in, and was popularized by, the movies.)

Andersen illustrates his essay with clips from hundreds of different L.A.-set films, from *Double Indemnity* to *Who Framed Roger Rabbit?* to *Blade Runner*. Although it's an excellent creative choice, it's also placed the film in an odd limbo since Andersen completed it in 2003. Because of the thicket of copyright issues surrounding the many excerpts, *Los Angeles Plays Itself* has never seen commercial release (although it is available to stream on YouTube). Andersen will be present for the film's screening on March 29, as part of a festival-long retrospective of his work.

Director Penelope Spheeris's *The Decline of Western Civilization* is less obsessed with L.A. (make that Los Angeles), although it would certainly fit into Andersen's musings on "the city as background." Her 1981 film paints a shocking, electric portrait of the city's punk rock scene at the time, rendering its title more literal and alarmist than



The Blazing World (dir. Jessica Bardsley)

ironic. Spheeris relies heavily on riveting live footage of legendary bands like Black Flag, the Circle Jerks, and X. She expertly captures the aggressive energy of the rockers and their slam-dancing audiences with restless, in-your-face camerawork that stands as some of the best concert footage ever. In between, Spheeris interviews the bands and, even more interestingly, their young fans. The comments she draws out on the punk movement and the social ills that spawned it are often damning. Standing on a smoggy L.A. roof, a concert promoter speaks about how "the air in Utopia is poisoned," making young people "desperate" and "bored." Later, a teenage fan expresses his frustration with the city and its "ugly old people, the buses, the dirt." Spheeris's film is a work of unsettling brilliance, deftly capturing her subject's spirit and questioning its dark heart. The director will appear when *Decline* screens on March 28.

Brief films, briefly noted: Like *Los Angeles*, two of the festival's short films turn an obsessive eye on past cinema. Most fascinating is Mathias Müller and Christoph Girardet's wordless short *Cut*, which screens on opening night—it's a disturbing montage of disfigurement and decay from recognizable films. Director Jessica Bardsley creates an interesting autobiographical reflection on her fascination with shoplifting in *The Blazing World*, juxtaposing her experiences with those of actress Winona Ryder, both in Ryder's real life and in *Girl, Interrupted*. The festival runs March 25–30.

—Patrick Dunn

★**"Writing in Tongues: Translating Yiddish in the Twentieth Century":** Temple Beth Emeth Evening in the Library. U-M English and Judaic studies professor Anita Norich discusses her book. Q&A. 7:30–9 p.m., TBE, 2309 Packard. Free, but reservations required via email to tbe_library@templebethemeth.org. 665-4744.

★**Concert Band and Michigan Youth Symphonic Band:** U-M School of Music. The Concert Band performs Grainger's *Lads of Wamphray*, Smith's *Dance Mix*, Qian's *Come, Drink One More Cup of Wine*, and Shelle's *End of the World*. The Michigan Youth Symphonic Band performs Holst's 2nd Suite in F for Military Band, Pegrarn's *Neon Nights*, and Hindemith's *Symphony in B-flat*. 7:30 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764-0594.

24 MONDAY

★**"Equity Issues for Women in Higher Education":** U-M Center for the Education of Women. Talk by University of Oklahoma adult and higher education professor Penny A. Pasque. 4–5:30 p.m., U-M School of Education Tribute Room 1322, 610 East University. Free. 764-6005.

★**"Community Archives in the Digital Era: Creating the South Asian American Digital Archive":** U-M Center for South Asian Studies. Talk by SAADA cofounder and executive director Samip

Mallick. 4–5 p.m., 100 U-M Hatcher Grad Library Gallery, enter from the Diag. Free. 615-4059.

★**"The Hard Way on Purpose: Essays and Dispatches from the Rust Belt":** Nicola's Books. Akron native Dave Giffels discusses his new essay collection about coming of age in the Midwest and the idiosyncrasies and optimism of Midwesterners. Signing. 7 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662-0600.

★**"Folk Song Sing-Along":** All invited to join a family-oriented recreational sing-along of folk songs. Bring your guitars, ukuleles, and other instruments if you'd like to jam along as well. Lyrics and chords are projected on a screen for singers and strummers. Led by Lori Fithian and Jean Chorazyczewski. 7 p.m., First Unitarian-Universalist Church, 4001 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 426-7818.

★**Michigan Youth Ensembles:** U-M School of Music. Anthony Elliott conducts the Michigan Youth Symphony Orchestra in works TBA. 7 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764-0594.

★**Jazz Residency Concert:** Ann Arbor School for the Performing Arts. Recital by AASPA students who have been working with Jazz Artist-in-Residence Vincent Chandler for the past week. 8 p.m., Kerrytown Concert House. Free. aa-spa.org.

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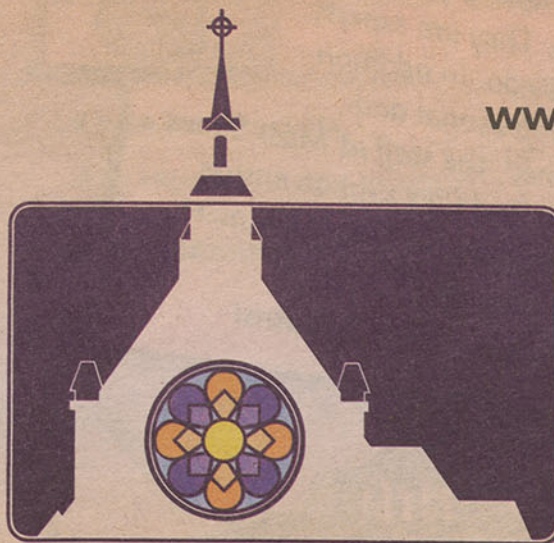


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25 TUESDAY

★"Skirmishes with the MacroPhenomenal: Letting Go of the City": U-M Institute for the Humanities. Talk by U-M architecture professor Jason Young. 12:30 p.m., 202 S. Thayer, room 2022. Free. 936-3518.

★"Economic Challenges Facing Eastern European Nations": U-M Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies. Talk by Harvard University Kennedy School of Government public policy lecturer Simeon Djankov, a former Bulgarian minister of finance. 4-5:30 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764-0351.

★Kevyn Orr: U-M School of Public Policy Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy. This U-M law school grad discusses his contentious, controversial experience for the past year as emergency manager of Detroit. 4-5:30 p.m., Michigan Union Ballroom. Free. 764-3490.

★"Health Care Reform and Mental Health Parity: What Does It Mean for You?": Ann Arbor District Library Bright Nights Community Forum. Talk by U-M Center for Healthcare Research & Transformation director Marianne Udow-Phillips. Followed by a Q&A with U-M psychiatry department chair Gregory Dalack and other U-M experts. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4555.

★Chanxi Guan: U-M School of Music. Performance by this China Conservatory piano chair. 8 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baitz (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764-0594.

26 WEDNESDAY

★"World Without Ice": U-M School of Music. Mar. 26-28. Recorded music by U-M music professors Michael Gould and Stephen Rush accompanies the amplified sound of eight dripping "ice drums," hung domes of slowly melting ice, in this installation that explores the beauty and pain of global warming. Also, a display of landscape photos of the Arctic by Henry Pollack. Noon-8 p.m., U-M Duderstadt Video Studio, 2281 Bonisteel, North Campus. Free. 764-0594.

★Brown Bag Organ Recital: U-M School of Music. Performance by First Presbyterian Church Arts Academy (Mount Clemens) organist Tom Curry. Bring a bag lunch, if you wish. 12:15-12:45 p.m., U-M School of Public Health Community Lounge, 109 S. Observatory. Free. 764-0594.

U-M Baseball vs. WMU. Home opener. 4 p.m., Ray Fisher Stadium. Ticket prices TBA. 764-0247.

★"The Generation of Nor Or (Nor Oren Serunt): Resistance in the Geography of Genocide": U-M Armenian Studies Program. Talk by Ludwig-Maximilian University (Munich) Institute for Near and Middle Eastern Studies research fellow Talin Suciyan. 4-5:30 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 763-0622.

★"Ship Sister to Mannish Woman: Queer Indo-Caribbean Biomythographies": U-M Department of Afroamerican and African Studies. Lecture by U-M Afroamerican and African studies professor Aliyah Khan. 4 p.m., 4701 Haven Hall, 520 S. State. Free. 764-5513.

★"Nothing is True, Everything is Permitted: Assassin's Creed III and Indigenous Animus": U-M American Culture Department. Talk by University of Illinois American Indian studies professor Jodi Byrd, author of *Transit of Empire: Indigenous Critiques of Colonialism*. 4-5:30 p.m., 3512 Haven Hall, 505 S. State. Free. 647-9535.

★"The Politics of Preserving the Past": U-M Natural History Museum Science Cafe. Talks by U-M museum studies director and Asian Archaeology curator Carla Sinopoli and local historic preservationist Susan Wineberg. Followed by discussion. Preceded at 5:30 p.m. by free hors d'oeuvres. 6-7:30 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. Free. 764-0478.

"The Boy Governor: Stevens T. Mason and the Birth of Michigan Politics": Salem Area Historical Society. Local historian and journalist Don Faber discusses his new book about Michigan's first and youngest governor. The program begins with a potluck dinner and a business meeting. 6 p.m., Salem Township Hall, 9600 Six Mile Rd., Salem. \$2 (members, free). (248) 437-6651.

★MiRobotClub. All robotics hobbyists invited to work on and discuss robots. 7-9 p.m., Maker Works, 3765 Plaza Dr. (off Airport Blvd north of Ellsworth). Free. mirobotclub.com.

★Ann Arbor Bonsai Society. Longtime Lynchburg (VA) bonsai artist Julian Adams discusses the care and maintenance of pine bonsai. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by socializing. 7 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free; metered parking. aabonsaisociety@gmail.com.

★"The Process of Editing a Major Motion Picture": Ann Arbor District Library. Talk by veteran documentary film editor Jason Zeldes, editor of the Oscar-nominated documentary *20 Feet from Star-dom*. The talk includes a showing of raw footage that went into making the film. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4555.

★"Arborwiki Edit Night": Ann Arbor District Library. All invited to meet some current Arborwiki.org editors and help edit or create entries providing information about everything local, from birthday deals to local history. 7-9 p.m., AADL freespace (3rd floor), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4555.

★"Drumcommunity": Lori Fithian, a local drummer and drum teacher, leads a drum circle. Instruments provided, or bring your own. Kids welcome. Preceded at 6:45 p.m. by a brief drum lesson. 7-9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore, 114 S. Main. Free. 426-7818.

★"Fact or Fiction: What More Do We Know about American Involvement in the 1967 Greek Military Coup?": U-M Modern Greek Program Pallas Lecture. Lecture by Indiana University political science professor Neovi Karakatsanis. 7 p.m., Michigan Union Anderson Room. Free. 936-6099.

★"An Evening of Poetry and Written Word": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room. Reading by Christine Rhein, a widely published veteran Brighton poet who won the Walt McDonald Prize in Poetry for her chapbook *Wild Flight*. "This poet worked for many years as an automotive engineer. Her eye for detail, the rhythms and timing of her lines, the sureness and finesse of her prosody all reflect how she designs her poems as vehicles for her keen sense of paradox," says poet Molly Peacock. 7-9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665-2757.

★History of Science Reading Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers. All invited to discuss *The Knife Man*, Wendy Moore's biography of the pioneering 18th-century surgeon John Hunter, whose macabre practices included body snatching and infecting himself with venereal disease. 7:30-9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669-0451.

★"Gerald Ford: An Honorable Life": U-M Ford Presidential Library. Scott and Jim Cannon discuss the posthumously published biography of Ford written by their father, former White House domestic policy advisor James Cannon. Signing & reception follow. 7:30 p.m., Ford Library, 1000 Beal. Free. 205-0555.

★Student Woodwind and Brass Chamber Music Concert: U-M School of Music. Program TBA. 8 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 764-0594.

★Harpsichord Studio Recital: U-M School of Music. Students of Edward Parmentier perform works TBA. 8 p.m., U-M Music School Blanche Anderson Moore Hall, 1100 Baitz (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764-0594.

★Arts Chorale: U-M School of Music. This ensemble of nonmusic majors performs Britten's "Rejoice in the Lamb" and works by Hogan, Lauridsen, Tallis, Whitacre, and others. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764-0594.

★Jazz Lab Ensemble & Campus Jazz Ensemble: U-M School of Music. Dennis Wilson conducts the Jazz Lab Ensemble and David Sayers conducts the Campus Jazz Ensemble. Program TBA. 8 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Free. 764-0594.

"Confessions of the Easter Bunny": Emergent Arts. Mar. 26-30 and Apr. 3-6 & 10-13. Local actors present local playwright Tim Henning's new play about the Easter Bunny. Jaded and tired from centuries of producing Easter eggs and suffering from an addiction to exotic greens, he seeks meaning and a new sense of purpose. 8 p.m., (Mar. 26 & Thurs.-Sat.) & 2 p.m. (Sun.), Mix Studio Theater, 8 N. Washington, Ypsilanti. Tickets \$12 (seniors & students, \$10) in advance at emergentarts.com, & at the door. 985-0875.

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 5 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

27 THURSDAY

★"Talmudic Depictions of Mothers: What Do They Tell Us about the Rabbis?": U-M Frankel Center for Judaic Studies. Talk by U-M Frankel fellow Marjorie Lehman. 12:15 p.m., 2022 Thayer Bldg., 202 S. Thayer. Free. 763-9047.

★"Between the Poverty of Mexico and the Promise of El Otro Lado": U-M American Culture Department. Talk by Mexican immigrant novelist Reyna Grande, author of the National Book Critics Circle Award finalist *The Distance Between Us*, a memoir of her experiences growing up in the U.S. as an undocumented immigrant. 2-4 p.m., 3512 Haven Hall, 505 S. State. Free. 763-1460.

★"Inorganic Physiology: Testing a Cell's Metal": U-M College of Literature, Science, & the Arts.

jazz



Alex Belhaj

The modest bandleader

Around 2010, when a certain modest, good-natured young guitarist began sitting in with established traditional jazz masters James Dapogny and Paul Klinger, it became clear once again that no style or genre belongs exclusively to one generation. Alexander Belhaj was born in 1985 in Farmington Hills, of blended Moroccan, Spanish, German, and Swedish ancestry. His interest in the guitar was kindled by the sounds of Nirvana and the West Coast ska-punk band Sublime, and Eric Clapton's *Unplugged* led him to investigate Robert Johnson, Elmore James, and the driving rhythms of Johnson's "Dust My Broom." Belhaj would eventually take lessons at the Herb David Guitar Studio and study privately with pianist Tad Weed. He recalls being moved to tears by a rehearsal tape of Billie Holiday singing "I Got It Bad and That Ain't Good."

His personal pantheon of musical heroes has grown to include swing guitarist Al Casey, early modernist Charlie Christian, staunch traditionalist Eddie Condon, Romani

guitar virtuoso Django Reinhardt, western swing archetype Bob Wills, and Hawaiian lap steel wizard Sol Hoopii. Long connected to U-M's student-run WCBN-FM, Belhaj cites radio broadcasts of historic early jazz and blues recordings as a powerful inspiration. He made the decision to form his Crescent City Quartet while under the spell of vintage recordings by clarinetist Joe Marsala, cornetist Mugsy Spanier, and New Orleans reedman Sidney Bechet.

Belhaj has engaged in busking tours of mainland Europe and makes periodic pilgrimages to New Orleans, where he thrives in the friendly, col-

lective musical atmosphere of the French Quarter Festivals. Back home in Ann Arbor, jamming with Klinger's Easy Street Jazz Band at the Zal Gaz Grotto or gigging with Dapogny in clubs closer to downtown, Belhaj has flourished as an instrumentalist and bandleader. He is not a flashy guitarist. Some of his quartet's best chemistry stems directly from his intuitive interactions with bassist Jordan Schug. The warmth of cornetist Dave Kosmyrna's tone and technique recall the majesty of Fats Waller's star trumpeter Herman Autrey.

Kosmyrna is the perfect foil for clarinetist Ray Heitger, who for years has led his own Cakewalkin' Jass Band in Toledo. Both men are capable of tossing off impassioned vocals. Heitger is prone to delivering gut-bucket lyrics with the gusto of a confirmed rascal. A joyous irreverence sets in when all four belt out the words to Bechet's devil-may-care opus "Viper Mad." In August 2013, Alex Belhaj's Crescent City Quartet brought out *Sugar Blues*, a sturdy album of old-school jazz, blues, and spirituals. Their CD release concert will take place at Kerrytown Concert House March 27.

—arwulf arwulf

Lecture by U-M chemistry & biophysics professor James Penner-Hahn. Reception follows. 4:10 p.m., Rackham Amphitheater (4th floor). Free. 998-6251.

★"20 Years after the Rwandan Genocide": U-M Ford School of Public Policy. Talk by Paul Rusesabagina, the manager of a 4-star Rwandan hotel who turned it into a sanctuary for more than 1,000 refugees fleeing ethnic cleansing. His story is the basis for Terry George's 2004 film *Hotel Rwanda*. 4:30-6 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Free. 615-3893.

★"Diversity, Consciousness, and Contemplative Engagement": U-M Program in Creativity and Consciousness Studies. Panel discussion with U-M musicology professor Meilu Ho, U-M psychology professor Ramaswami Mahalingam, and U-M jazz and contemporary improvisation professor Ed Sarath. 5-6:30 p.m., Palmer Commons Great Lakes Room, 4th floor, 100 Washtenaw. Free. 995-0239.

Nerd Nite Ann Arbor. Monthly event featuring several speakers TBA (at annarbor.nerdnite.com) who give fun yet informative talks, 18-21 minutes long, about things that interest them, everything from nanoparticles to the science of *The Simpsons* and the genealogy of Godzilla. Admission is usually \$5, but the March show is cosponsored by the Ann Arbor District Library, so admission is free. 7-9 p.m. or later (doors open at 6:30 p.m.), Live, 102 S. First. Free admission. 327-4555.

★"StorySLAM": Word of Mouth/Literati Bookstore. Open mike storytelling. 7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585-5567.

★"Buglers and Bugle Calls of the Civil War": Ann Arbor Civil War Round Table. Talk by Jackson bugler and Civil War reenactor Mark Heath. 7 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Administrative Bldg. meeting room near the auditorium, 5305 Elliott Dr. (off McAuley Dr. from Huron River Dr.). Free. (517) 750-2741.

Romel Joseph: Friends of Music Education for Haiti Fundraiser. Mar. 27 & 29 (different programs & locations). This Juilliard-trained Haitian violinist is joined by his daughter, violist Victoria Joseph, and his son, pianist Bradley Joseph, in 2 concerts to raise money to help provide music education for children of low-income families who attend the New Victorian School in Port-au-Prince and to creating a state-of-the-art performing arts center there. Today's program: Shostakovich's *The Gadfly*, 3 violin duets, and 2 of Romel Joseph's arrangements of Haitian folk songs. 7 p.m., Ann Arbor District Library multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free; \$10 donation encouraged. 327-4555.

★Hyunjin Lim: EMU Music Department. This EMU music lecturer performs a variety of works TBA for solo piano. 7:30 p.m., EMU Alexander Recital Hall, Lowell at E. Circle Dr., Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2255.

"Thru the Fairy Door!": Thurston Community Players. Mar. 27-29. Thurston Elementary School students, parents, and friends present the school's 40th annual original musical (see Up Front, p. 9). This year's show is set during the Ann Arbor Art Fair



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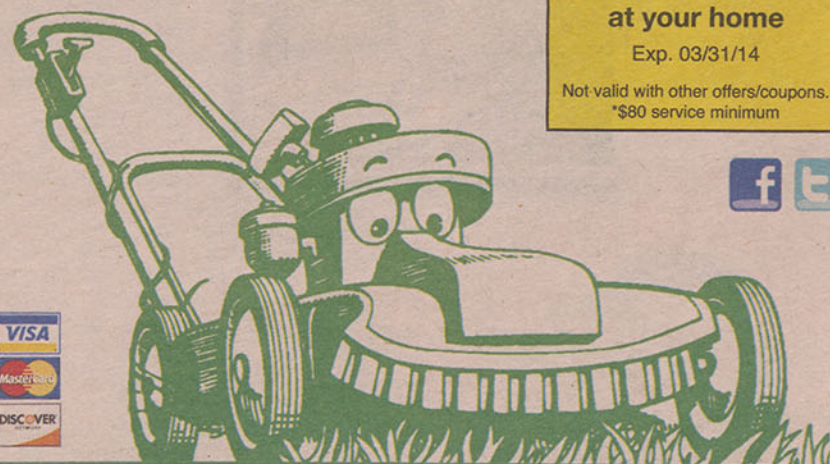
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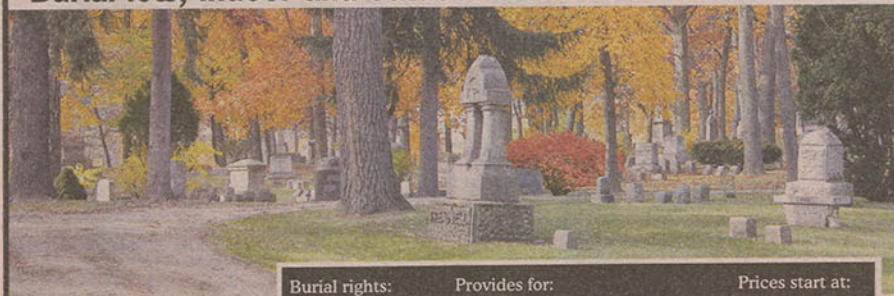
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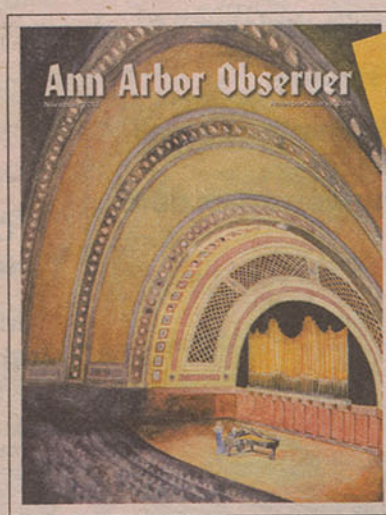


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and concerns a group of teens who lose an important ring through a fairy door. With some help from The Beatles, Katydid Perry, and other 6-legged friends, they're able to save the day. 7:30 p.m. (Mar. 27 & 28) & 7 p.m. (Mar. 29), Clague Middle School auditorium, 2616 Nixon. Tickets \$10 (kids age 17 & under, \$5; kids age 2 & under, free) at the door only. thurstonplayers@gmail.com.

"The Magic Flute": U-M Opera Theatre Department. Mar. 27-30. U-M theatre professor Kay Walker Castaldo directs U-M opera students in Mozart's beloved "opera fantaisie." At once a love story, a whimsical comedy, and an adventure filled with sinister deceptions, *The Magic Flute* is above all an unsurpassed celebration, by turns jubilant and unsettlingly haunting, of the power of music. Sung in German, English supertitles; the dialogue is in English. Martin Katz conducts the U-M Symphony Orchestra. 7:30 p.m. (Thurs.), 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), & 2 p.m. (Sun.), Mendelssohn Theater. Tickets \$22 & \$28 (students, \$10) at the Michigan League in advance and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538.

"Venus in Fur": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Saturday. 7:30 p.m.

Alex Belhaj's Crescent City Quartet: Kerrytown Concert House. See review, p. 93. This local ensemble, led by guitarist Belhaj, plays a range of New Orleans jazz styles, from struts, stomps, cake-walks, and rags to pop tunes, marches, and classical favorites. Tonight they celebrate the release of their debut album, *Sugar Blues*. With clarinet player Ray Heitger, cornet player Dave Kosmyrna, and bassist Jordan Schug. 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$10-\$25 (students, \$5). Reservations recommended. 769-2999.

"Confessions of the Easter Bunny": Emergent Arts. See 26 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

Joe DeVito: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Mar. 27-29. Popular New York City comic whose act is a fast-paced blend of mordantly irreverent observational one-liners with self-deprecating storytelling about male-female relationships, his Italian American family, or current events. He was one of the principal writers for Morgan Spurlock's satirical documentary *Super Size Me*. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. 8 p.m. (Thurs.-Sat.) & 10:30 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 314 E. Liberty. \$10 (Thurs.) & \$13 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, \$12 (Thurs.) & \$15 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996-9080.

28 FRIDAY

★Lunchtime Tour: UMMA. UMMA staff and student docents give a 30-minute tour based on a theme in the museum's collection. 12:15-12:45 p.m., meet at the UMMA information desk, 525 S. State. Free. 764-0395.

★"Intimate Strangers: Latin America, Spain, and the Middle East": U-M Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies. Lectures by Universidad de Costa Rica political science grad student Sergio Moya Mena, Universidade Federal Fluminense (Brazil) anthropology professor Paul Pinto, and U-M Spanish professor Eric Calderwood. 1-5 p.m., Michigan League Henderson Room. Free. 647-4143.

U-M Baseball vs. Iowa. Mar. 28-30. The U-M opens its Big Ten season with a 4-game series that includes a Saturday doubleheader. 4 p.m. (Mar. 28), 2 p.m. (Mar. 29), & 1 p.m. (Mar. 30), Ray Fisher Stadium. \$5 (youths age 12 & under, \$3; U-M students, free). 764-0247.

★"Evaluating the Environmental Impact of Hydraulic Fracturing: Michigan as a Case Study": U-M Earth & Environmental Sciences Department. Lecture by U-M engineering professor Brian Ellis. 4 p.m., 1528 Little Bldg., 425 East University. Free. 764-1435.

"Sustainable Dinner and a Movie": WCC. Dinner prepared and served by WCC culinary arts faculty chefs and their students. Followed at 7:30 p.m. by a screening of *Beyond the Light Switch*, a documentary about the pros and cons of various energy technologies, from carbon capture to fracking to nuclear, solar, and wind. 5:30 p.m., WCC Student Center Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Cost TBA. Reservations required. garrets@wccnet.edu.

★"The American Art Tile Movement and Motawi Tileworks": Ann Arbor District Library. Talk by Motawi Tileworks (Ann Arbor) founder Nawal Motawi and Tile Heritage Foundation president Joseph Taylor. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Free. 327-4555.

★Mark Webster Reading Series: U-M English Department. Readings by U-M creative writing grad students, including poet Marcelo H. Castillo and fiction writer Chris McCormick. 7 p.m., UMMA Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 615-3710.

★"One Year Anniversary Weekend": Literati Bookstore. Mar. 28-30. A weekend of readings to celebrate Literati's first year in business. For updated

schedule, see literatibookstore.com. Mar. 30: readings by local poets Keith Taylor and Ray McDaniel. Times TBA, Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585-5567.

★D.J. MacHale: Nicola's Books. This best-selling children's writer, author of the popular Pendragon series, discusses *Storm*, the 2nd novel in his Sylo Chronicles young adult series set in a post-apocalyptic Maine. In this installment, a group of friends has escaped war-torn Pemberwick Island and finally made it back to Portland, but it's not the town they remember. Signing. 7 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662-0600.

Matthew Frantz: The Yellow Barn. Performance by this Chicago-based singer-songwriter who describes his music as soulful, honest, and gritty. 7 p.m., Yellow Barn, 416 W. Huron. \$5 (Yellow Card or Pink Punch Card holders, free). ouryellowbarn.com.

Randazzo Dance Company. Mar. 28-30. Professional and student dancers perform works to live music by internationally recognized Finnish-born cellist Katri Ervamaa and award-winning local jazz pianist Rick Roe. Emcee is Curt Waugh. The program is highlighted by Bach's Ballet Suite in C and the Sole Full of Rhythm tap ensemble performance of its show "Wingin' It." 7 p.m. (Mar. 28 & 29), 4 p.m. (Mar. 29), & 2 p.m. (Mar. 30), Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. Tickets \$18 in advance at randazzodancecompany.com; \$20 at the door. 477-9350.

"Thru the Fairy Door!": Thurston Community Players. See 27 Thursday. 7:30 p.m.

"Welcome English Dance": Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. NYC caller Gene Murrow leads English country dances to live music by Susie Lorand, Susan Lazar, and Cynthia Shaw. In conjunction with the "Melt into Spring English Country Dance Ball" (see 29 Saturday listing). 8-11 p.m., Concourse Hall, 4531 Concourse Dr. (off S. State across from the airport). \$10 in advance with ball registration; \$12 at the door. 674-0951.

★Rosenberg Scholar-in-Residence Weekend: Beth Israel Congregation. Mar. 28 & 29. Jewish Theological Seminary Hebrew Bible and Its Interpretation chair Robert Harris gives lectures on biblical texts. Mar. 28: "Reading In and Reading Out: Different Paths, One Bible," a talk on the possible conflicts between the historical "original" meaning of biblical texts and the rabbinic practice and theology that developed from them, as well as the conflict today between historical-critical scholarship of the Bible and Jewish tradition. Mar. 29: "Did Moses Write the Five Books of Moses?" (1 p.m.), a talk on biblical passages that seem to suggest post-Mosaic authorship of the books of Moses. "Christians and Jews Read Scripture" (7:30 p.m.), a talk on the similarities and differences between Jewish and Christian medieval biblical study. 8 p.m. (Mar. 28) and 1 & 7:30 p.m. (Mar. 29), Beth Israel Congregation, 2000 Washtenaw. Free. 665-9897.

★University Symphony Orchestra: U-M School of Music. Kenneth Kiesler conducts this music student ensemble in evocative and colorful works, including Enescu's haunting *Prelude in Unison*, Prokofiev's vibrant Piano Concerto in D-flat major—with undergrad concerto competition winner Andrew Wang—and Rimsky-Korsakov's vivid *Scheherazade*. Preceded at 7:15 p.m. in the lower lobby by a lecture on the program. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764-0594.

Dobbins-Krahnke-Weed Trio: Kerrytown Concert House Jazz Master Series. This local trio of pianist Tad Weed, bassist Kurt Krahnke, and drummer Sean Dobbins performs a program of music honoring Detroit jazz trumpeter Johnny Trudell. 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$15-\$30 (students, \$5). Reservations recommended. 769-2999.

"Confessions of the Easter Bunny": Emergent Arts. See 26 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

"The Magic Flute": U-M Opera Theatre Department. See 27 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Venus in Fur": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Saturday. 8 p.m.

Joe DeVito: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 27 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

Play TBA: The Yellow Barn. Mar. 28-30. Cast & title TBA. 10:30 p.m. (Mar. 28), 9 p.m. (Mar. 29), & 4 p.m. (Mar. 30), Yellow Barn, 416 W. Huron. Cost TBA. ouryellowbarn.com.

29 SATURDAY

Flea Market: Ann Arbor City Club. Mar. 29 & 30. Antiques, collectibles, jewelry, art, books, housewares, CDs, vintage linens, holiday items, and more. The Boutique Chocolat offers homemade cookies, cakes, candies, and other chocolate treats. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. (Mar. 29) & noon-4 p.m. (Mar. 30), AACCC, 1830 Washtenaw. Free admission. All items half off on Sun. 662-3279.

★"Michigan Harpsichord Saturday": U-M School of Music. An opportunity to play and listen

to harpsichords. Informal lessons. Recitals by U-M music professor Edward Parmentier and others. 10 a.m.-1 p.m., 2058 U-M Music School, 1100 Bait (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764-0594.

6th Annual Boxcar Derby and Picnic: Phi Delta Theta/Ann Arbor Active Against ALS (A2A3). Teams of 1-3 drivers of all ages invited to compete in a boxcar (aka soapbox) derby race. All encouraged to build their own cars; prebuilt cars available. Followed by a picnic (burgers, dogs, wings available for a donation) on the lawn of Phi Delta Theta fraternity. Proceeds benefit ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease) research. Spectators welcome (donations appreciated). 10 a.m.-2 p.m., South University at Oxford. \$30 per team entry fee. Preregistration strongly recommended at activeagainstals.org. 623-9877.

***Ring of Steel Action Theatre and Stunt Troupe.** This local stunt troupe presents a swashbuckling series of swordplay and stunt demos. Followed by a chance to try some swordplay. 11 a.m., Ringstar Studio, 3907 Varsity Dr. (north off Ellsworth west of Stone School). Free. 320-1147.

***"Sign Language for Infants and Toddlers": Ann Arbor District Library.** Kathy Brady presents a program of songs, games, and other activities for infants and toddlers (accompanied by a parent) to introduce them to the Signing Smart method of sign language. 11-11:45 a.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327-8301.

***"Brick Bash 2014": Skyline High School Band Fundraiser.** This public LEGO building party for all ages includes piles of LEGO, Duplo, and Bionicle parts to play with. Also, a performance by the Skyline Drumline (2 p.m.), a percussion petting zoo, stop-motion animated LEGO videos, and displays of amazing models by LEGO hobbyists from around the country. Sale of LEGO jewelry, custom sets, and publications. 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Skyline High School, 2552 N. Maple. \$5 (families, \$20). 474-2722.

***"Storytime at the Museum": UMMA.** U-M student docents and UMMA staffers read stories related to the art on display. Followed by an art activity. For kids ages 4-7 accompanied by a parent. Siblings welcome. 11:15 a.m., UMMA (meet at the information desk), 525 S. State. Free. 764-0395.

***"Mosaic Jewelry": Ann Arbor District Library.** Mosaicgeek.com creator Shannon Kuchera shows adults and teens in grade 6 & up how to make delicate mosaics to wear as jewelry. Supplies provided. 12:30-2:30 p.m. & 3:30-5:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-8301.

***"2014 New Dahlia Introductions": Michigan Dahlia Association.** Screening of an American Dahlia Society video. Also, auction of tubers. 1:30-4 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free. Metered parking. 429-5796.

***"Nature Fun for Kids: Spring Welcome!": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission.** Shawn Severance leads a hike for kids ages 4-7 accompanied by an adult. 2-3:30 p.m., County Farm Park, Medford Rd. entrance. Free. Preregistration required. severances@ewashtenaw.org, 971-6337, ext. 335.

***"Felt Flower Fun": Ann Arbor District Library.** All adults and kids in grade 6 & up invited to make a felt flower display. Materials provided. 2-3 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327-8301.

"Dance 4 Hope Dance-a-thon": Encouraging Words Fundraiser. Dancing to recorded music. Proceeds benefit programs for kids in severe poverty. 2-6 p.m., Phoenix Center, 220 S. Main. \$7; donations welcome. encouragingwordsin@gmail.com.

***Loren Estleman: Aunt Agatha's.** This veteran local mystery writer discusses *Don't Look for Me*, the 24th in his popular and critically acclaimed series featuring the exploits of the hard-boiled Detroit private eye Amos Walker. Signing. 2 p.m., Aunt Agatha's, 213 S. Fourth Ave. Free. 769-1114.

***Tea and Tour: The Farm at St. Joe's.** Guided tours of the nation's first hospital farm, which includes 3 hoop houses and a staff community garden site and provides patient therapy opportunities, a weekly farmers' market, and some food for patient meals and local food banks. Tea and refreshments. 1-4 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, 5555 McAuley Dr., Ypsilanti. Free; preregistration required by Mar. 24. bairdz@trinity-health.org, 712-4667.

Randazzo Dance Company. See 28 Friday. 4 & 7 p.m.

"Kids Night Out!": Jewish Community Center. All kids in grades K-5 invited for a pizza dinner and dessert, games, craft activities, and a screening of a movie TBA. 6:30-10 p.m., JCC gym, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). \$15 (members, \$10), \$13 (members, \$8) for additional siblings. Reservations required. 971-0990.

***U-M J. Edgar Edwards Reading Series.** Readings by 1st-year MFA students, including fiction writer Lauren Prastien and poet Katie Willingham.

7-9 p.m., Michigan League Henderson Room. Free. 764-6330.

"Wine, Word, & Song": The Neutral Zone. Young local poets vie for a spot on the Ann Arbor Youth Poetry Slam Team. Also, food, wine, music, and an art exhibit. 7 p.m., Neutral Zone, 310 E. Washington. Tickets \$75. Reservations required. neutral-zone.org, 214-9995.

U-M Persian Students Association 16th Annual Cultural Show. This lively show features student performances of traditional and modern Persian dances, comedic skits, and more. 7 p.m., Power Center. Tickets \$10-\$15 (students, \$5-\$10) in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office. Persians@umich.edu, 763-TKTS.

"Thru the Fairy Door!": Thurston Community Players. See 27 Thursday. 7 p.m.

Romel Joseph: Friends of Music Education for Haiti Fundraiser. See 27 Thursday. Today: Joseph and his 2 children are joined by pianist Renee Robbins, cellist Margaret Weiss, and violinist Cecilia Johnson in a program of chamber works by Mozart, Brahms, and Mendelssohn. 7:30 p.m., Northside Community Church, 929 Barton. \$10 suggested donation. 761-5324.

"Melt into Spring English Country Dance Ball": Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. NYC caller Gene Murrow leads English country dances to live music by Susie Lorand, Susan Lazar, and Cynthia Shaw. Catered dinner. Preceded 1-4 p.m. by a practice session (\$10). 8-11:30 p.m., Concourse Hall, 4531 Concourse Dr. (off S. State across from the airport). \$70 (includes practice session, meal, and Mar. 28 dance), \$30 (ball only); \$40 (ball & afternoon practice). 674-0951.

Solomia Soroka & Arthur Greene: Kerrytown Concert House. Goshen College (Indiana) violin professor Soroka and U-M piano professor Greene perform works by Ukrainian composers including Mykola Lysenko. Proceeds benefit victims of the current Ukrainian civil conflict. 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$25 general admission. Reservations recommended. 769-2999.

"Venus in Fur": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Saturday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Confessions of the Easter Bunny": Emergent Arts. See 26 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

"The Magic Flute": U-M Opera Theatre Department. See 27 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Joe DeVito: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 27 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

30 SUNDAY

***"Design + Architecture": UMMA.** Docent-guided tour of the new Design Gallery and the current exhibition of architectural designs by Michigan architect David Osler. 2 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 764-0395.

***"Festive FoolMoon Illuminated Streamers": Ann Arbor District Library.** All adults and teens in grade 6 & up invited to make a streamer with sewn-on LED lights to wave around at the annual downtown FoolMoon party on Apr. 4. 2-4:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327-8301.

***"Get Ready Robots": Ann Arbor District Library Bright Nights Community Forum.** All adults and youth in grade K & up invited to make a robot costume for the annual FestiFools parade down Main Street on Apr. 6. 2-3:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-8301.

"The Magic Flute": U-M Opera Theatre Department. See 27 Thursday. 2 p.m.

Randazzo Dance Company. See 28 Friday. 2 p.m.

"Venus in Fur": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Saturday. 2 p.m.

"Confessions of the Easter Bunny": Emergent Arts. See 26 Wednesday. 2 p.m.

***Paradigm Shift: First Baptist Church Coffee Break Concert Series.** This U-M music student chamber orchestra is joined by U-M string professor Aaron Berofsky for a program of works by Mozart and Johann Strauss. Refreshments. 3 p.m., First Baptist Church, 517 E. Washington. Free. 663-9376.

***Michael Burkhardt: EMU Music Department.** This EMU music professor performs organ works by Bach, Franck, and Vierne. 4 p.m., EMU Pease Auditorium, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487-7064.

***U-M Euphonium and Tuba Ensemble: U-M School of Music.** Fritz Kaenzig conducts this music student ensemble in Liszt's Hungarian Rhapsody no. 2 and other works. 4 p.m., U-M Music School McIntosh Theatre, 1100 Bait (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764-0594.

Boychoir of Ann Arbor: St. James Episcopal Church. Boychoir founder Tom Strode directs this acclaimed choir of boys ages 8-18 in a program sam-

pling many styles of the choral repertoire, from the John Rutter anthems "For the beauty of the earth" and "O clap your hands" to "Hope for Resolution," a European chant melody setting of a South African freedom song. Also, Gwyneth Walker's imaginative setting of the spiritual "Deep River" and English composer Gerald Finzi's "My spirit sang all day," along with a performance by the Boychoir's Young Men's Ensemble (ages 13-18). 4 p.m., St. James Episcopal Church, 3279 Broad St., Dexter. Freewill offering. 426-8247.

Wynton Marsalis & Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra: University Musical Society. Pulitzer Prize-winning composer-trumpeter Marsalis leads the orchestra—widely regarded as the finest large jazz ensemble playing today—in a program of Duke Ellington compositions and historic jazz from Detroit and New Orleans. "One rarely hears this music played with such technical brilliance, stylistic authenticity and tonal sheen," writes a *Chicago Tribune* reviewer. Followed at 6 p.m. by the Ford Honors Gala (Michigan League, \$85 includes performance) with a dinner and reception honoring Marsalis and members of the JLCO. 4 p.m., Hill Auditorium. \$14-\$66, in advance at ums.org, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764-2538.

***"Fireside Fun": Leslie Science and Nature Center.** All invited to sit around a campfire, roast marshmallows, and swap stories. If you like, bring camping chairs and s'mores fixings (marshmallows provided). 6:30-8 p.m., LSN, 1831 Traver Rd. Free. 997-1533.

***"From Retribution to Healing: Advancing Restorative Approaches to Justice in Washtenaw County": Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice.** Local storyteller LaRon Williams moderates a panel discussion on recent efforts to implement restorative practices in schools, Judge Timothy Connors' newly formed peacemaking court, and efforts to establish a victim/offender conferencing option for nonviolent juvenile offenses. The program begins with a dessert reception at 7 p.m. and ICJP's annual business meeting at 7:30 p.m. 7-9 p.m., First Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 4001 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Free. icjp.org, 663-1870.

Michigan Chamber Players. This ad hoc ensemble of U-M faculty performs Berg's Adagio for Clarinet, Violin, and Piano; U-M piano professor Kristin Kuster's *Sweet Poison*, Britten's *Canticle*, Schubert's *Auf dem Strom*, Kovler's *Wa-Edah Ma*, and Put's *And Legion's Will Rise*. 7 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Bait (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764-0594.

31 MONDAY

***"Korean-Japanese Marriages in Colonial Korea": U-M Nam Center for Korean Studies.** Talk by Oslo University Korean history professor Vladimir Tikhonov. 4-5:30 p.m., 1636 International Institute/SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764-1825.

***Janine Benyus: U-M School of Natural Resources and the Environment 13th Annual Wege Lecture on Sustainability.** This well-known science writer discusses biomimicry, a term she popularized that means imitating natural models to find solutions to complex human problems. Reception follows. 5 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Free. 764-1412.

***"Using Yoga to Detoxify the Body, Mind, and Emotions": Ann Arbor District Library.** Yoga teacher Victoria Duranona leads a yoga workout for adults & teens in grade 6 & up. Bring a towel or mat and dress comfortably. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-8301.

***University Choir and Michigan Youth Chamber Singers.** Organist James Kibbie and percussionist Joseph Gramley—both U-M professors—accompany the choirs in Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms*, Muhly's "A Good Understanding," Kuster's "Volta," Brahms' "Lass dich nur nichts nicht dauern," Stanford's "Beati quorum via," and a tribute to Korean composer Hyo Won Woo. 7:30 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764-0594.

***Trombone Ensemble: U-M School of Music.** The U-M Trombone Ensemble is joined by the Ann Arbor Trombone Choir in works by Gonzalez, Mahler, Massaino, Williams, and Shostakovich. 8 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 764-0594.

***Nancy Ambrose King: U-M School of Music.** This U-M oboe professor is joined by oboist Melissa Peña, harpsichordist Francis Yun, bassoonist Jeffrey Lyman, violinists Andrew Jennings and Timothy Steeves, violists Yizhak Schotten and Siobhan Cronin, and cellist Horacio Espinoza in works by Handel, Dirk-Michael Kirsch, Bernhard Crusell, John Steinmetz, and Mozart. 8 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Bait (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764-0594.



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Classifieds

Wanted

The Classifieds deadline for the April issue is March 11.

GUIDES RESEARCHERS (2)
Conscientious, diligent, resourceful people with excellent English skills needed for temporary work at the Ann Arbor Observer as City Guide and Community Guide researchers. Must be available for most of the period from May through August. One full-time (40 hours/week) and one part-time (20 hours/week) position available. The job requires tremendous attention to detail, ability to track down information, suitable people skills, good writing skills, & a penchant for accuracy and thoroughness. Please send resume and cover letter to James Manheim, Deputy Editor, 2390 Winewood, Ann Arbor, MI 48103, or email jim@aaobserver.com. No phone calls, please. Deadline for applications is March 11.

Looking for ladies to join **PINOCHLE** group in Ann Arbor on Thursday evenings. Call (734) 669-8285.

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Miscellaneous

The Classifieds deadline for the April issue is March 11.

ISPY CONTEST

Can you identify the glimpse of Ann Arbor in the photo on p. 103? If you can, you could win a \$25 check made out to any business advertising in this issue. One winner will be drawn from all correct entries received by noon, March 11. No phone entries, please. Send your answer to: I Spy, Ann Arbor Observer, 2390 Winewood, AA 48103. Fax: 769-3375; email: backpage@aaobserver.com (include address and phone number and put I Spy in the subject line).

Services

The Classifieds deadline for the April issue is March 11.

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Please include your name and contact information.

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Rental

The Classifieds deadline for the April issue is March 11.

Hacienda Encantada 4-diamond Resort Cabo San Lucas, BCS Mexico. Junior suite, sleeps four. 7 nights for \$650. pamrickelmann@att.net

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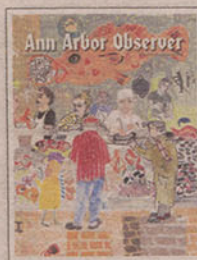
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Sincerely,

Patricia Garcia
Publisher



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March - Market Update

Wow, what a year! 2013 will go down as one of the strongest years in the history of Ann Arbor real estate. Fueled by our strong economy and record low interest rates, our market soared with many homes appreciating 10% or more. My personal sales set an all time record. The same trends continue to dominate our market and 2014 looks to be another great year. Are you thinking of buying or selling in 2014? Call me today to start planning! 734-476-7100

SELLERS - The value of your home is at its highest level since 2007. Demand for your home is at the highest level since 2004. But this market is far from "easy". The issues of pricing, managing multiple offers, and successfully appraising the home with the buyer's lender are more complex than ever. It takes an experienced agent with an effective strategy to successfully sell your home and get it closed. Please call me to discuss your situation today, 734-476-7100.

BUYERS - Word on the street is that there are no quality homes to buy. Somehow I manage to lead the county in closed buyer sales year to date. I have been successful in finding the best homes available for most of my buyers (not all, sorry). The process of home selection, offer strategy, and financing are a challenge. You need an experienced agent in your corner to find the right house and successfully close. Call me today to start your search, 734-476-7100.

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SALINE - Incredible opportunity to own a 91-acre estate property directly adjoining the City of Saline. This land is perfectly set for large scale residential development. Land is rolling with woods and open farm fields. Property includes 3500 sq. ft. home and small barn. Could be a great horse farm as well. \$2,500,000. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



GEDDES GLEN - This 5-bedroom, 2.5 bathroom custom-built home represents the finest in location, design, and craftsmanship. Incredible setting in Ann Arbor's only gated community. Enjoy quality outdoor living with full exterior kitchen, multiple patios with fireplace and hot tub. The interior is a showplace and includes dual staircase in entry, two-story living and family rooms, cherry kitchen, dream master suite, and finished lower level with theater. \$1,899,000. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



CENTENNIAL PARK - This 5-bedroom, 4.5-bathroom colonial on a quiet street deep within the sub is one of the best homes you will find. Great setting backing to common area with extensive large deck and patio. The interior is gorgeous and features two-story family room, large kitchen with cherry cabinets and granite counters, den, luxury master suite with sitting area and 2 walk-in closets, and finished basement with large rec room, bedroom, and bath. \$649,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



POLO FIELDS - Stunning 4-bedroom, 3.5-bath colonial that has been completely remodeled from top to bottom. Great location deep within the neighborhood. Gorgeous landscaping, huge deck, patio, and large backyard. The interior of the home is perfect and features story foyer, den, cherry kitchen with granite, open family room, luxury master suite with remodeled bath, and the finished basement is as nice as you'll see. \$639,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



WINES ELEMENTARY - Custom built 4-bedroom, 3.5-bath colonial in Riverwood. Gorgeous setting adjacent to Newport Creek nature area. Great outdoor living with incredible privacy, extensive landscaping, and 3 patios. The interior is a showpiece and includes two story family, open kitchen with hardwood floors and granite counter tops, den, luxury master suite with sitting area and fireplace, guest suite, and Jack-n-Jill bath. \$599,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



SALINE - This is one of the most incredible homes I have ever listed. Stunning Frank Lloyd Wright-inspired home built to the highest standard of craftsmanship and materials. Enjoy your own park-like acre plus setting with mature landscaping, large patio, and stream. Home is jaw dropping at every turn including custom kitchen with granite, custom woodwork in every room, two fireplaces, waterfall, and outbuilding. \$549,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



COUNTRY VICTORIAN - Incredible 5-bedroom, 2-bath, 1800s Victorian on 6 peaceful acres just minutes to I-94 and US-23 in Augusta Township. Great setting with numerous outbuildings and large pond. Home is classic and oozes are the charm and character you would expect in this era home. Features include 10' first floor ceilings, extensive molding, large porches, extensive remodeling and restorations, and finished basement. \$399,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



BRIARHILL - Very sharp 4-bedroom, 2.5-bath colonial on a quiet interior lot in one of the area's most desired subs. Great setting with fenced backyard, patio, and nice landscaping. Home features two-story foyer, den, large living room and dining room, open kitchen with upgraded cabinets and stainless steel appliances, very large family room with fireplace, great master suite includes walk-in closet and bath, and nice-sized kids' bedrooms. \$389,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



LAKE FOREST - Perfect 3-bedroom, 2.5-bathroom colonial on one of the nicest lots in neighborhood. Great setting features mature trees and landscaping, large backyard, and deck. The interior is move-in ready with fresh paint and new carpet. Features include two-story foyer, large family room, open kitchen, flex-use living room, great master suite with w/closet, nice sized kids bedrooms, and walkout basement. \$339,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



SUPERIOR TOWNSHIP - Perfectly maintained 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom ranch on 2.5-peaceful acres backing to a gorgeous pond. Great location between Ann Arbor and Plymouth, easy for commuters. Great setting with large deck overlooking the pond. Home is in perfect condition and features sunny great room with fireplace, kitchen with granite counters, and sizeable bedrooms. \$314,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



CHELSEA - On Golden Pond. Incredible setting for this 2-bedroom, 1-bathroom home overlooking Island Lake. Peaceful and gorgeous views of this non-sports lake. Perfect for nature lovers with multiple decks and screened porch. Home features maple kitchen, great room with wall of glass to the lake, and nice master bedroom. Two garages, one with finished loft area. \$239,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



OAK MEADOWS CONDO - Great 3-bedroom, 2.5-bath-room condo in one of Ann Arbor's most sought after complexes. Enjoy this great condo with pool that is convenient to everything. This unit is sharp and features kitchen with granite counter tops, open living room with fireplace, nice master suite, and finished basement. \$234,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - THE DOWNS - Premium 5-bedroom, 4.5-bath Landau-built colonial on a pastoral 6-acre lot in one of the area's most sought after locations. The setting is perfect, with expansive views, extensive landscaping, and an in-ground pool. This spectacular home features grand curved staircase, two-story living room, gourmet kitchen, family room with fieldstone fireplace, luxury first floor master suite, and finished walkout basement. \$1,350,000. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



BROOKVIEW HIGHLANDS - This 5-bedroom, 4.5-bath custom-built home is one of the premier homes in Saline. Great setting with circle drive, extensive landscaping and two patios. The interior is finished at the highest level of design, craftsmanship and materials. Features include two-story great room with wall of glass, gourmet kitchen with professional grade appliances, stately den with bookcases, dream master suite, and one of the nicest finished basements you will see. \$899,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



STONEBRIDGE - Incredible 5-bedroom, 4.5-bath custom-built home on a perfectly private lot in one of the area's most desired subs. Stunning grounds featuring extensive landscaping, circle drive, screened porch, deck, and patio. The interior is loaded and is highlighted by the two-story great room with wall of windows, cherry kitchen, two master suites, den and finished walkout basement. \$759,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



BROOKVIEW HIGHLANDS - This 5-bedroom, 4.5-bath room home has undergone an extreme home makeover. Every inch has been remodeled and updated to the highest standards. Incredible setting features circle drive, extensive landscaping, patio, deck, and pool. The interior is a dream including Mahogany flooring, cherry kitchen with granite, huge sunroom, luxury master suite and finished lower level. Incredible. \$749,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



SALINE - Custom built country estate on 10 gorgeous acres. Incredible setting highlighted by mature forest, open grassland, and extensive landscaping. The home is built to the highest standard with extreme attention to detail and quality. Features include custom cherry kitchen with prof grade appliances, luxury master suite, finished walkout basement, and in-floor heating system. \$639,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



ARBORETUM AREA - Completely remodeled 3-bedroom, 3-bathroom contemporary overlooking the Huron River Valley just minutes from U of M and all hospitals. Incredible setting with hilltop views of The Arb and valley. Home is stunning and includes multiple decks and patios, great room with wall of glass, cherry kitchen with granite and SS appliances, all hardwood flooring, luxury master suite, two studies, and family room with fireplace. \$629,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



SALINE ESTATE - Custom-built 4-bedroom, 3.5-bathroom colonial by Toll Brothers on a spacious acre lot in one of the area's most sought after neighborhoods. Great setting with extensive landscaping and brick paver patio. This home is gorgeous with designer décor throughout. Features include all hardwood flooring on main floor, maple kitchen with granite, two-story family room with back stair, luxury master suite, and great kids bedrooms. \$599,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



SALINE - Stunning custom-built 4-bedroom, 4.5-bath home on a private 2-acre setting just minutes from everything. Gorgeous lot with mature landscaping and large patio. Home is loaded and features ample hardwood floor, dream kitchen with granite and high-end appliances, family room with field stone fireplace, luxury master suite with sitting area, glamor bath, and bonus room, and prof finished lower level with rec room, spa-bath, den, wine cellar, and exercise room. \$599,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



TRAVIS POINTE - Custom-built 4-bedroom, 2.5-bath all brick home on the #17 fairway at Travis Pointe. Incredible setting with great views of the golf course from the large decks and screened porch. The interior of this home features two-story great room with floor to ceiling brick fireplace, spacious kitchen, family room, den, luxury master suite, and great kids' bedrooms. \$500,000. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - STONEBRIDGE - Perfect 4-bedroom, 2-full baths, 2.5-half baths home on a quiet cul-de-sac lot near Saline Schools! Great setting featuring oversized backyard, large deck, and extensive landscaping. The interior sparkles and includes two-story foyer, large den, cherry kitchen with SS appliances, family room with 10' ceilings and fireplace, luxury master suite with remodeled bath and finished lower level with large multi-use rec room. \$469,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



YORK PLACE - Very sharp 4-bedroom, 2.5-bathroom home on a gorgeous acre lot overlooking a pond. Perfect setting in one of Saline's most desired subs on a quiet cul-de-sac with extensive landscaping, large deck, and huge backyard. Home features two-story foyer, family room with vaulted ceiling and fireplace, den, large kitchen, nice master suite, and good-sized kid's bedrooms. \$440,000. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



STONEBRIDGE - Very sharp 4-bedroom, 3.5-bath ranch on a quiet lot in Stonebridge. This home has great flair and includes great room with fireplace, maple kitchen, screened porch, luxury master suite, and finished basement with view out windows, rec room, bedroom, den, and bath. You will love this home! \$399,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



CENTENNIAL PARK - Wonderful 4-bedroom, 2.5-bath colonial in one of Saline school district's most popular neighborhoods. Enjoy panoramic view of open space from the oversized deck of this perfectly maintained home. The interior is in perfect move-in condition and features maple kitchen, open family room, large formal living and dining room, very nice master suite with great bath, and large kids bedrooms. Walk to Harvest Elementary and Saline High. \$375,000. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



DEXTER - This custom-built 3-bedroom, 3-bath colonial rests on a gorgeous 2.5-acre setting. Incredible land with mature trees, complete privacy, and ample wildlife. The home is stunning and includes custom kitchen with stainless steel appliances, family room with fireplace, den, luxury master suite, great kids' bedrooms, and finished walkout basement with large rec room and bar. \$372,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



STONEBRIDGE CONDO - This 3-bedroom, 3.5-bathroom detached condo has one of the nicest golf course views you will see. Enjoy complete view of the #3 hole at Stonebridge from the large Trex deck. The interior of this home sparkles and features great room with two-story ceiling, kitchen with hardwood floor and quartz counter tops, den, large master suite, and finished basement with view out windows. \$369,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



SCIO TOWNSHIP - Hard to find 3-bedroom, 2-bath ranch on 10-acres. Incredible setting in this horse friendly community just minutes from Ann Arbor. The interior features open great room with wall of glass to the backyard, spacious kitchen, nice master suite, and spacious bedrooms. Home is sharp and in move-in condition. \$339,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



HICKORY POINTE - Incredible 3000 sq. ft. 4-bedroom, 2.5-bath room colonial in one of the area's most desired subs. This home rests on a quiet interior lot with great elbowroom, walking distance to community pool. The interior shows like a model home and features large formal living and dining rooms, spacious kitchen, great family room with stone fireplace, luxury master suite with huge walk-in closet, bath, and sitting room/den, and sizeable kids bedrooms. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100. \$314,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



DICKEN ELEMENTARY - This 4-bedroom, 2.5-bathroom colonial is walking distance to Dicken, Pioneer, and UM Stadium and is ready for your modernizing touches. Great setting on one of the prettiest tree-lined streets you will see. The interior features hardwood floors in almost every room, large living room, open kitchen, family room, formal dining, master suite with attached bath, and nice sized kids bedrooms. \$269,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



WEST SIDE ANN ARBOR - Charming westside two-story loaded with charm and potential. Just a short walk to downtown Ann Arbor, you won't find this much house for the dollar anywhere! Home has original hardwood floors and trim, some updates complete, and is ready for your finishing touches. Screened porch. \$229,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



MANCHESTER - Charming 3+ bedroom, 3.5-bathroom cape walking distance to schools and downtown Manchester. Incredible setting features great landscaping, large deck, spacious backyard, and mature trees. The interior of this home sparkles and features a large great room, open kitchen, first floor master bedroom, sizeable kids bedrooms, bonus room, and finished walkout basement. \$219,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.

Are you thinking about selling your home this year? I currently have buyers looking for the following:

- West side Ann Arbor - Up to \$2 Million
- North Ann Arbor - Up to \$1.5 Million
- Ann Arbor, Saline, Dexter - Up to \$1.5 Million, newer, updated
- Pioneer High School - \$500-\$800,000 - newer
- Ann Arbor Hills or Burns Park - \$500-\$700,000 - need two of these
- Ann Arbor or Saline - \$500-\$750,000 - acreage/privacy
- Stonebridge or Travis Pointe - home or condo \$300-\$500,000
- Saline Schools - \$350-\$450,000 - 4 BR Colonial
- NE Ann Arbor - \$300-\$450,000 - updated
- Ann Arbor, Saline, Dexter \$250,000 - \$350,000 - Acreage
- West Side Ann Arbor - \$200-\$250,000 - home or condo

Please call me if you think your home could be a match: 734-476-7100 or Matt@ISellAnnArbor.com



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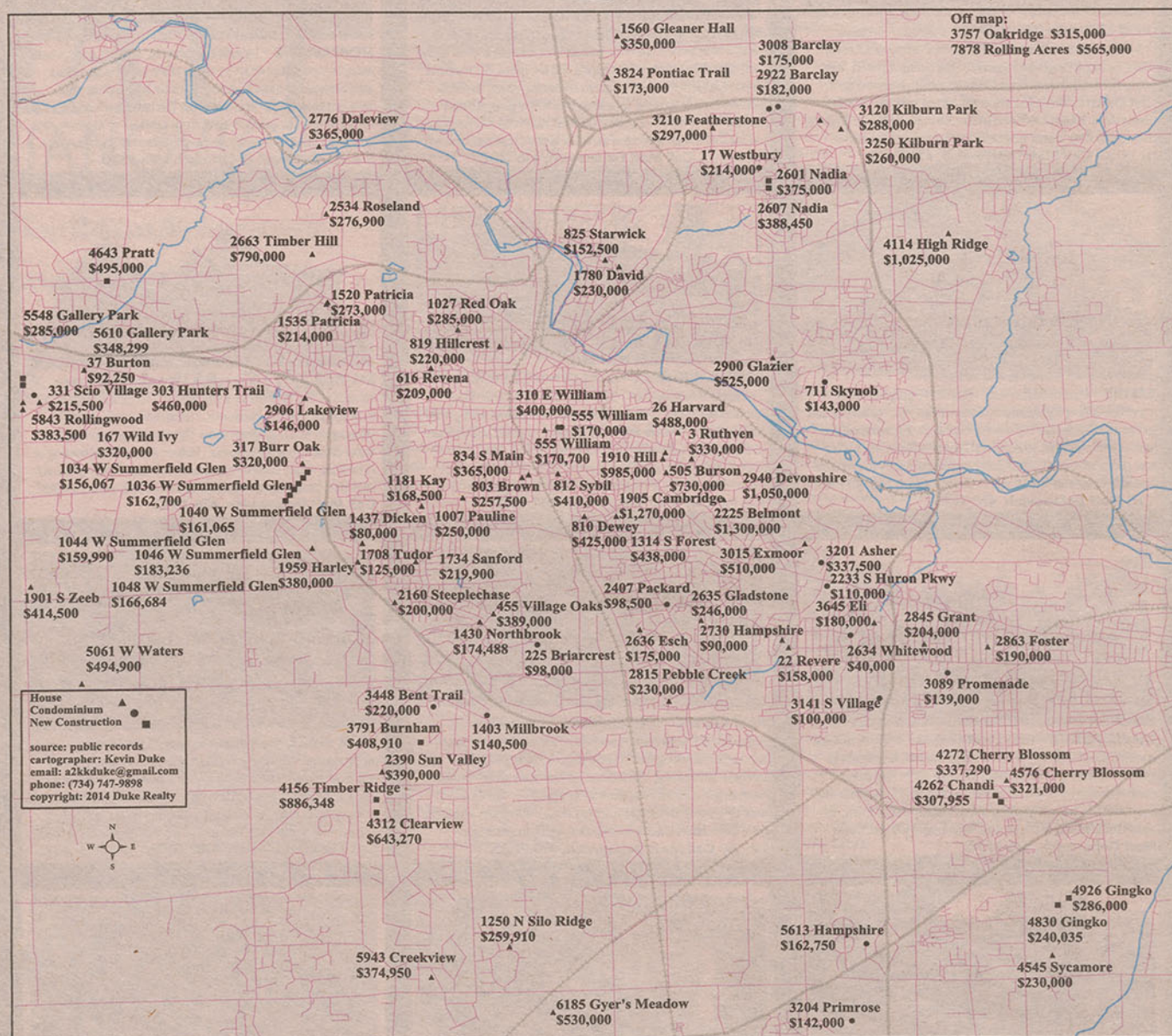


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JANUARY 2014 HOME SALES



It was a good year for real estate sales in the Ann Arbor school district: Buyers snapped up 1,372 single-family homes in 2013, the most since 2005, when 1,392 were sold. The total price of all sales, \$441 million, also came close to matching 2005's \$460 million.

The table below, based on public records, lists those and other key stats from the last nine years. Sales are also broken down by price range to see how the market shifted its weight over time. For example, sales of the most affordable homes declined in 2013 compared to 2012, as some stepped over higher price thresholds and foreclosures diminished. Every price range above that saw increases.

The number of homes selling for \$1 million or more jumped from eight in 2012 to twelve in 2013. But that does not necessarily mean that all high-end properties are selling for more money. Consider the most expensive sale of the year, 2225 Belmont. Though it sold for \$1.3 million last year, that was actually \$150,000 less than the same house fetched in 2006. Located on a secluded two-acre lot in Tuomy Hills, the 3,693-square-foot house was built in 1950 by one of Ann Arbor's busiest commercial contractors, the late Henry deKoning.

The Belmont home's buyers, Andy and Anna Mignery, say that deKoning built the house as his own home. Spacious as it was, it must have seemed like

a small project compared to what he was used to building: according to his obituary, deKoning was associated with major expansions of such campus landmarks as Michigan Stadium and the Medical Center. He also worked on the Willow Run bomber plant. Though 2225 Belmont was sold in December, it is noted on this month's map due to a delay in data collection. Yes, the buyer is the same Andy Mignery who played football for the U-M—he's now the regional director for Hines Securities.

Compared to 2012, last year's median selling price jumped 11 percent, to \$262,000. The last time the median selling price topped this mark was in 2006, when it hit an all-time high of \$288,000.

—Kevin Duke

| S-F Home Price | 2012 versus 2013 | | | | | | | | | Increase | Increase |
|---------------------|------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | | |
| Less than \$100,000 | 3 | 3 | 14 | 40 | 60 | 76 | 56 | 58 | 39 | (19) | -33% |
| \$100,000-\$199,999 | 197 | 206 | 286 | 332 | 362 | 330 | 332 | 364 | 274 | (90) | -25% |
| \$200,000-\$299,999 | 559 | 457 | 458 | 379 | 326 | 292 | 315 | 412 | 501 | 89 | 22% |
| \$300,000-\$399,999 | 312 | 272 | 252 | 155 | 129 | 145 | 139 | 178 | 249 | 71 | 40% |
| \$400,000-\$499,999 | 129 | 130 | 94 | 72 | 50 | 73 | 72 | 92 | 110 | 18 | 20% |
| \$500,000-\$599,999 | 81 | 67 | 69 | 31 | 40 | 38 | 66 | 39 | 67 | 28 | 72% |
| \$600,000-\$699,999 | 51 | 50 | 36 | 23 | 22 | 26 | 28 | 22 | 52 | 30 | 136% |
| \$700,000-\$799,999 | 20 | 30 | 17 | 20 | 13 | 9 | 26 | 29 | 36 | 7 | 24% |
| \$800,000-\$899,999 | 22 | 19 | 15 | 15 | 10 | 9 | 12 | 10 | 21 | 11 | 110% |
| \$900,000-\$999,999 | 8 | 7 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 10 | 11 | 1 | 10% |
| \$1,000,000 or more | 10 | 13 | 7 | 6 | 3 | 8 | 5 | 8 | 12 | 4 | 50% |
| Homes Sold | 1,392 | 1,254 | 1,252 | 1,078 | 1,021 | 1,013 | 1,059 | 1,222 | 1,372 | 150 | 12% |
| Median Price | \$285,000 | \$288,000 | \$260,000 | \$235,000 | \$220,000 | \$229,000 | \$234,000 | \$236,000 | \$262,000 | \$26,000 | 11% |
| Average Price | \$335,000 | \$342,000 | \$308,000 | \$284,000 | \$265,000 | \$276,000 | \$291,000 | \$286,000 | \$321,000 | \$35,000 | 12% |
| Sales (\$millions) | \$460M | \$429M | \$386M | \$306M | \$270M | \$280M | \$308M | \$349M | \$441M | \$92M | 26% |



Superior Township – You get it all in this luxurious estate home at Arbor Hills: elegance, upgraded amenities, expansive living spaces, 5 bedrooms and 6.1 baths all on a gorgeous acre+ lot. Finished walkout lower level offers a second kitchen and huge family room. \$975,000



Ann Arbor – Over 7100 square feet await you in this 'Stratford' model in the prestigious Walnut Ridge neighborhood. Includes a solarium, gourmet kitchen, conservatory, stunning master suite and multiple studies. Finished walkout lower level with 2 additional bedrooms and rec room. \$860,000



Ann Arbor – Brownstone living at its finest in the heart of downtown Ann Arbor. Attention to detail and upscale interior finishes throughout all 4 levels set this condo apart from the rest. 2900 square feet with 3 bedrooms and 2.1 baths. Attached 2-car garage is a great feature! \$750,000



Pinckney – Lakefront! Completely renovated home on 3+ acres with 75' of prime frontage on all-sports Strawberry Lake. 3250 sq. ft. with 4 bedrooms and 3.1 baths. Custom chef's kitchen and lavish master bedroom suite. Attached 2.5-car garage plus a heated 5-car outbuilding. \$749,900



Ann Arbor – Enjoy the natural beauty that surrounds this spacious 4-bedroom home. Situated on a private country acre just minutes from downtown Ann Arbor. Vaulted great room features a floor-to-ceiling fireplace, wall of windows and doorwall to deck viewing the wooded yard. \$424,900



Ann Arbor – Wildwood Park! Rare side-by-side duplex, each with 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, screened porch, hardwood floors, basement and garage. Within walking distance of downtown. Great opportunity for owner-occupied income property! \$384,900



Ann Arbor – Stately pillars highlight the façade of this roomy 2-story that sits on a park-like acre. 3400 sq. ft., including finished walkout lower level, 4 bedrooms and 2.1 baths. Formal dining room has sliding doors to the screened-in sunroom. Master suite with sitting area. \$369,900



Ann Arbor – Luxurious Berkshire Creek condo! One of the best locations, backing to the woods. Open floor plan has soaring great room with fireplace, sharp kitchen, eating space and formal dining area, loft, and study with built-in desk and shelving. 2 bedrooms, each with private bath. \$314,900



Ann Arbor – Light-filled ranch located on a quiet cul-de-sac, close to the U of M football stadium and downtown Ann Arbor. 3 bedrooms and 1.1 baths. Gleaming hardwood floors throughout the living room and bedrooms. Family room with fireplace and newer carpet. \$259,900



Ann Arbor – Popular Vernon Downs location for this brick, 3 bedroom ranch surrounded by lovely landscaping. Living room has hardwood floors, a cozy fireplace, large windows, and an adjoining dining area. Updated kitchen. Partially finished lower level. Fenced back yard. \$225,000



Dexter – Well-maintained 4-bedroom home located on a very private 1-acre lot on a quiet country road. 600 sq. ft. 4-season sunroom with 3 skylights to enjoy year round. Cozy family room with wood burning fireplace. Newer windows, carpeting and roof. \$209,900



Superior Township – One of the last vacant parcels in the distinguished Glennborough subdivision. Estate sized 4.5-acre lot with premier cul-de-sac location that backs to a common area. Township taxes with Ann Arbor Schools. Convenient to US-23 and M-14. \$179,900



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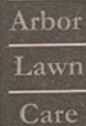


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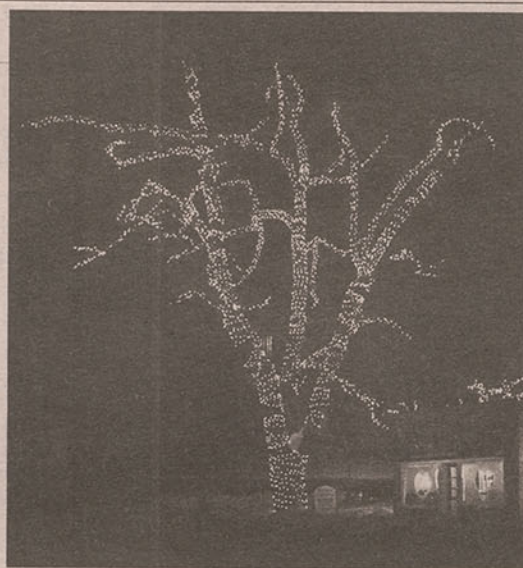
i spy

by Sally Bjork

"This is the log cabin adjacent to Cobblestone Farm," writes Janine Chey, "where my kids used to attend summer day camps." Pamela Kittel calls it "a fine example of efficient home design for frigid winters before insulation." For Robert DeBona, though, "hearing stories about the early pioneers" gives him "extra appreciation" for central heat, air conditioning, and refrigeration.

"The cabin is known by a few names," writes Olivia Popp, "including the Willis Cabin, Lucy Look Cabin, and Harris Cabin." While Lucy Look and Harris refer to former occupants, Judi Taylor notes that Willis refers to its original location "at 8691 McKean Road, just north of Willis Road ... in Augusta Township." That's very near the hamlet of Willis, Michigan. (Thanks, Judi.)

We received twenty-two correct entries including one from Candie Sorensen, who volun-



Winter's redbud?

teers as a Master Gardener for Cobblestone Farm, and one from Ellen Willson, who writes, "Thanks for motivating us to be observant!" Our winner, randomly drawn from among the correct entries, is Evelyn Hepla of Ypsilanti. She'll enjoy her \$25 gift certificate at Zingerman's.

To enter this month's contest, use the photo and clue above to identify the scene, then follow the instructions at the bottom of the page.



fake ad

by Jay Forstner

We received seventy-eight entries correctly identifying the February Fake Ad for the e-book *My Father, My Portnoy*, by Ira Roth. The ad appeared on page 82 of the issue, nestled among the Services ads.

"Philip Roth at age 80 doesn't claim to have any children," wrote Kathie Wilder. "Thus, it's doubtful 'My Father, My Portnoy' may be a valid memoir. ... Smiled at the author's name, IRA Roth. Apropos during tax season."

Olivia Popp also noted the play on Philip Roth's novel *Portnoy's Complaint*. "While not the most traditional of plots at the time, it did push Philip Roth to fame on its coarse dialog, harsh irony,

and controversial subjects. I'll be sure to buy Ira's book in the parallel universe that sells it."

Linda Etter also wondered about Roth's book: "What is his complaint?" she asked.

Our favorite note, though, came from Judi Taylor: "I was just thinking—if I ever play Trivial Pursuit I want you on my team Czar! You seem to have an endless knowledge of everything!" We blush.

Our winner was Chad Rupley. He's taking his gift certi-

cate to Bigalora.

To enter this month's contest, find the Fake Ad and follow the instructions in the box below. The Fake Ad always contains the name of last month's winner in some form.

My Father, My Portnoy by Ira Roth

A revealing memoir by the son of America's greatest living novelist
Available on the Amazon Kindle, Barnes & Noble Nook, Boundaries Books ToME, and wherever eBooks are sold.

To enter either contest, send email with the subject "Fake Ad" or "I Spy" to backpage@aaobserver.com. Mail: 2390 Winewood, Ann Arbor, MI 48103. You must include your name, address, and telephone number! All correct entries received by noon on Monday, March 10, will be eligible for this month's random drawings. Winners will receive \$25 gift certificates to any business advertising in this issue.

THANKS!

We extend a sincere thank you to our new Observer friends!

We appreciate your financial support.

Thanks also to readers who responded to our request for **FREE** subscription confirmations.

Congratulations to the lucky winners of our February drawing!

The following readers won a **\$25 gift certificate** to their choice of any business advertising in the Observer.

February winners:
Dorothy S. and Ingrid D.

If you would like to be entered in the March drawing for a \$25 gift certificate to any business advertising in this issue, check out the information on page 96, and submit your Observer Friend or Free Subscription confirmation by March 14.

Thanks!
Observer Staff

Ann Arbor Observer

GUIDES RESEARCHERS (2)

Conscientious, diligent, resourceful people with excellent English skills and journalistic savvy needed for temporary work researching the Ann Arbor Observer City Guide and Community Guide. Must be available for most of the period from May through August. Two positions, one 40 hours/week, one 20 hours/week.

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Events at a Glance

Daily Events listings begin on p. 65. Films: p. 67. Galleries: p. 81. Nightspots begin on p. 62.

Concert Music

classical, religious, cabaret

- "On the Move: Planes, Trains, & Balloons" (Vocal Arts Ensemble), Mar. 1
- Latitude 49 chamber ensemble, Mar. 1
- Dexter Community Band, Mar. 2
- Violinist Itamar Zorman & pianist Pauline Martin, Mar. 8
- Huron Valley Harmonizers cabaret show, Mar. 9
- Ann Arbor Concert Band, Mar. 9
- Soprano Caroline Helton & pianist Timothy Cheek, Mar. 11
- Pianist Timothy Ehlen, Mar. 11
- Organist Aaron Tan, Mar. 14
- Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, Mar. 15
- Akropolis Reed Quintet (chamber), Mar. 16
- Elias String Quartet, Mar. 18
- Mezzo-soprano Tara Erraught, Mar. 20
- Pianist Joel Schoenhals, Mar. 21
- Lutenist Ronn McFarlane & flutist Mindy Rosenfeld, Mar. 21
- Orchid Ensemble (Chinese music), Mar. 22
- Boychoir of Ann Arbor, Mar. 22 & 30
- Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra, Mar. 22
- Washtenaw Community Concert Band, Mar. 23
- Organist Daniel Roth, Mar. 23
- Violinist Romel Joseph, Mar. 27 & 29

Vernacular Music

pop, rock, jazz, & traditional

See *Nightspots*, p. 62, for shows at the Ark, Blind Pig, & other clubs

- Lost Voices Benefit Concert, Mar. 1
- A Taste of Ireland, Mar. 2
- George Benson & the Speakeasy Quartet, Mar. 2
- Red Tail Ring (folk & old-time), Mar. 2
- Red Tail Ring & singer-songwriter Sam Corbin, Mar. 5
- Juanito Pascual Trio (flamenco), Mar. 6
- Lee Murdock (singer-songwriter), Mar. 7
- The Harmony (R&B-pop), Mar. 7
- Saline Fiddlers, Mar. 8
- Nucleus (rock), Mar. 8
- Harmonica wiz Peter Madcat Ruth, Mar. 8
- The Pat Metheny Unity Group (jazz), Mar. 10
- Dmitry Baevsky Quartet (jazz), Mar. 13
- Eric Burdon & the Animals (rock), Mar. 13
- The Sandy Tar String Band (old-time) & Kavazabava (Eastern European folk), Mar. 14
- John Flynn (singer-songwriter), Mar. 14
- Mark Stone Trio (jazz & Indian), Mar. 14
- Alfredo Rodriguez Trio & Juanito Pascual Group (Latin jazz), Mar. 14
- The Accidentals & Bennett (folk), Mar. 15
- Justin Moore (country), Mar. 15
- Matt Wilson Quartet (jazz), Mar. 16
- Naked Dance Trio (jazz), Mar. 18
- Stewart Francke (singer-songwriter), Mar. 20
- Geri Allen (jazz piano), Mar. 21
- Asif Ali Khan Qawwali Ensemble, Mar. 21
- Chicago Afrobeat Project, Mar. 21
- Finer (rock-pop), Michael Spain (singer-songwriter), & The Tectonix (rock), Mar. 22
- Alex Belhaj's Crescent City Quartet (jazz), Mar. 27
- Singer-songwriter Matthew Frantz, Mar. 28
- Wynton Marsalis & Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra, Mar. 30

Theater, Opera, & Dance

- *Prince Igor* (Metropolitan Opera broadcast), Mar. 1
- *Oliver!* (Encore Musical Theatre Co.), Mar. 1
- *Gendarmat & Night of Fights* (U-M Basement Arts), Mar. 1

- *Venus in Fur* (Performance Network), every Thurs.–Sun.
- *Redwood Curtain* (Purple Rose), every Wed.–Sun. through Mar. 15
- *Scapino!* (Concordia), Mar. 6–9
- *Coyote on a Fence* (PTD), Mar. 6–9 & 13–15
- *Fireside Festival of New Works* (Performance Network), Mar. 9–12
- *See How They Run* (Friends of the Michigan League), Mar. 13–16
- *Reckless* (Civic Theatre), Mar. 13–16
- *Impact Dance*, Mar. 14 & 15
- *Eve of Ides* (Michigan Shakespeare Festival), Mar. 14
- *Werther* (Metropolitan Opera broadcast), Mar. 15
- "A David Ives Evening" (U-M Residential College), Mar. 16
- *The Sleeping Beauty* (Metropolitan Opera broadcast), Mar. 20
- *Suite Pairings* (People Dancing), Mar. 21 & 22
- *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* (U-M MUSKET), Mar. 21–23
- *Confessions of the Easter Bunny* (Emergent Arts), Mar. 26–30
- *The Magic Flute* (U-M Opera), Mar. 27–30
- Randazzo Dance Company, Mar. 28–30

Comedy, Storytelling, & Performance Art

- Comic Mike Green, Mar. 1
- Comic Al Jackson, Mar. 6–8
- Comic Tom Mabe, Mar. 8
- Comic Maria Bamford, Mar. 9
- Comic L.A. Hardy, Mar. 13–15
- Comic Heywood Banks, Mar. 15
- Comic Nick Gaza, Mar. 20–22
- Comic Joe DeVito, Mar. 27–29

Festivals, Fairs, & Shows

- Home, Garden, & Lifestyle Show, Mar. 14–16
- Orchid Festival, Mar. 22 & 23
- Dexter Artisan Fair, Mar. 22
- Holistic Psychic Fair, Mar. 22
- Brick Bash 2014, Mar. 29

Lectures, Readings, & Forums

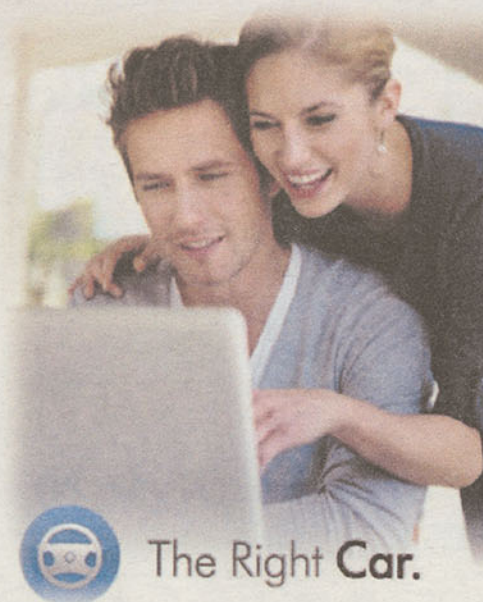
- Novelist Sharon Kay Penman, Mar. 8
- Novelist Charles Finch, Mar. 11
- Novelist Kathryn Davis, Mar. 13
- Poet Frances Kai-Hwa Wang, Mar. 13
- Poet Lizzie Hutton, Mar. 18
- Poets Joshua Edwards & Paul Killebrew, Mar. 20
- Novelist Curtis Sittenfeld, Mar. 22
- Novelist Owen Laukkanen, Mar. 22
- Poet Christine Rhein, Mar. 26

Family & Kids' Stuff

- Children's writer Stephan Pastis, Mar. 6
- *Coming to America* (Wild Swan), Mar. 13–15
- Purim Party (Jewish Cultural Society), Mar. 16
- *The Teacher from the Black Lagoon* (Theatreworks USA), Mar. 16
- *Wolverine Will* (Performance Network), Mar. 22
- Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra family concert, Mar. 23
- *Thru the Fairy Door!* (Thurston Community Players), Mar. 27–29

"Only in Ann Arbor" Event of the Month

- Nerd Nite Ann Arbor, Mar. 27



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